# Medium-Ring Compounds. XXVI.* Tripelargolactam Oxonium Chloride 

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#### Abstract

Triclinic, $P \overline{1}, a=12.26$ (1), $b=12.74$ (1), $c=12.09$ (1) $\AA, \alpha=108.06$ (10), $\beta=120.39$ (10), $\gamma=81.74$ (10) ${ }^{\circ}$, $\left(\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{17} \mathrm{ON}\right)_{3} \cdot \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} . \mathrm{HCl}, M=520 \cdot 17, Z=2, D_{m}=1 \cdot 14, D_{x}=1 \cdot 150 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$. All three molecules assume the same general type of conformation with a slightly non-planar trans-amide group. There is evidence for the occurrence of minor amounts of other conformations. The crystal structure is built from hydro-gen-bonded layers showing approximate trigonal symmetry with chlorine anions hydrogen-bonded to three amide nitrogens and oxonium cations to three amide oxygens related by the approximate threefold axis. Attractive electrostatic interactions between anions and cations help to form double layers showing approximately $\overline{3}$ point symmetry. It is only in the association of the double layers, which have nonpolar surfaces, that the trigonal symmetry is lost.


## Introduction

Crystals of irregular shape were sometimes obtained as a by-product in the attempt to crystallize pelargolactam hemihydrochloride (Winkler \& Dunitz, 1975) at temperatures around $0^{\circ}$. For X-ray analysis they were sealed in capillaries.

Intensities from a crystal of dimensions $0.50 \times 0.50 \times$ 0.20 mm were collected on an automated Hilger-Watts Y290 diffractometer with Mo $K \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda=0.71069$ $\AA, \mu=1.65 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ ) monochromatized by reflexion from graphite. All reflexions with scattering angle $\theta<20^{\circ}$ were measured, only those above background in the range $20^{\circ}<\theta<24^{\circ}$. The measurements led to 3289 independent $\left|F_{o}\right|$ values. Analysis of a sharpened Patterson synthesis gave positions for the chlorine anion and the 15 atoms ( $\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{N}$ and O ) of the three amide moieties. An $F_{o}$ synthesis based on phases calculated from these 16 atomic positions showed most of the remaining ring atoms and a stronger peak at the centre of three amide oxygens. This peak was attributed to a water molecule, whose presence in the crystal had not been recognized before. Although the electron density was diffuse in some parts of the hydrocarbon chains, all ring atoms were located unambigously in a second $F_{o}$ synthesis. Four cycles of full-matrix leastsquares refinement (isotropic temperature factors) reduced the initial $R$ of 0.33 to 0.19 . With 51 hydrogen atoms ( $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ and NH) at calculated positions ( $B_{\mathrm{H}}=$ $12 \AA^{2}$ assumed and held constant) included, seven cycles of block-diagonal least-squares refinement (anisotropic temperature factors for non-hydrogen atoms) led to the final $R$ of 0.096 . An ( $F_{o}-F_{c}$ ) synthesis, including only the non-hydrogen atoms, showed positive peaks ( $0 \cdot 15-0.30$ e $\AA^{-3}$ ) for all H atoms of molecules 1 and 2 , for some H atoms of molecule 3 , and also spurious peaks of up to $0.7 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$ in the region of molecule 3. Around the O atom of the water molecule

[^0]the residual electron density is very diffuse, and it was not possible to determine the positions of the three remaining hydrogen atoms involved in $\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ hydrogen bonds.

Final positional and vibrational parameters are given in Tables 1 and 2, bond angles, bond lengths and torsion angles in Table 3. Scattering factors were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1962).*

## Discussion

All three molecules of the asymmetric unit assume the same general type of conformation as found in the analysis of pelargolactam hemihydrochloride (Winkler \& Dunitz, 1975). As in that analysis, the molecular parameters (Table 3) show certain features (abnormally short bond lengths, opened bond angles) characteristic of disordered structures. For the four independent pelargolactam molecules in the two crystal structures, the mean differences between observed and standard bond lengths increase with the mean isotropic temperature factor of the molecule. For all these molecules, but especially for molecule 3 with its residual electron density and large vibrational motion, it seems likely that the averaged structure actually corresponds to a superposition of different molecular orientations and/or conformations. The highest peak ( 0.7 e $\AA^{-3}$ ) observed in the final ( $F_{o}-F_{c}$ ) synthesis in the region of molecule 3 could well correspond to an alternative amide oxygen position, since it is found at a distance of $2.5 \AA$ from the water oxygen. Although a second residual peak of $0.5 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$ is compatible with a corresponding amide nitrogen position, it was not possible to locate additional atoms.

[^1]Analysis of the experimental thermal motion tensors in terms of rigid-body translational and librational motion (Schomaker \& Trueblood, 1968), also yields a level of disagreement between observed and calculated vibration tensor components that increases with the mean isotropic temperature factor:

$$
\left\langle\left(\Delta U_{i j}\right)^{2}\right\rangle^{1 / 2}\left\langle\sigma^{2}\left(U_{i j}\right)\right\rangle^{1 / 2} \quad\left\langle B_{i i}\right\rangle
$$

| Pelargolactam |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $\quad$ hemihydrochloride | $0.0106 \AA^{2}$ | $0.0096 \AA^{2}$ | $7.5 \AA^{2}$ |
| Molecule 2 | 0.0128 | 0.0076 | 9.3 |
| Molecule 1 | 0.0151 | 0.0083 | 9.6 |
| Molecule 3 | 0.0270 | 0.0107 | 12.6 |

Table 1. Tripelargolactam oxonium chloride: atomic coordinates (e.s. d.'s in parentheses) and vibrational tensor components for non-hydrogen atoms (all $\times 10^{4}$ )
The $U_{i J}$ values (in $\AA^{2}$ ) correspond to the temperature factor expression $T=\exp \left[-2 \pi^{2}\left(U_{11} h^{2} a^{* 2} \ldots+2 U_{12} h k a^{*} b^{*} \ldots\right)\right]$ and have e.s.d.'s in the range 0.003-0.020 $\AA^{2}$ (except for Cl , where they are smaller).

|  | $x / a$ | $y / b$ | $z / c$ | $U_{11}$ | $U_{22}$ | $U_{33}$ | $U_{12}$ | $U_{13}$ | $U_{23}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cl | 1693 (2) | 2530 (2) | 2626 (2) | 546 | 1817 | 570 | -67 | 219 | 449 |
| $\mathrm{O}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ | 1641 (5) | 6117 (7) | 3622 (6) | 672 | 2353 | 918 | 99 | 373 | 766 |
| 10 | 259 (5) | 4117 (5) | 6260 (5) | 716 | 954 | 814 | 47 | 453 | 189 |
| 1 N | 1374 (6) | 3728 (6) | 5187 (6) | 709 | 954 | 805 | 49 | 399 | 404 |
| $1 \mathrm{C}(1)$ | 365 (7) | 3615 (7) | 5249 (7) | 558 | 935 | 701 | 52 | 248 | 381 |
| $1 \mathrm{C}(2)$ | -622 (8) | 2822 (9) | 4064 (8) | 775 | 1436 | 708 | -109 | 277 | 231 |
| 1C(3) | -433 (11) | 1674 (10) | 4282 (12) | 1228 | 1526 | 1327 | - 584 | 433 | -263 |
| $1 \mathrm{C}(4)$ | 747 (12) | 1158 (9) | 4733 (11) | 1880 | 946 | 1321 | 27 | 932 | 157 |
| 1 C (5) | 1651 (12) | 1546 (9) | 6224 (12) | 1843 | 1187 | 1516 | 150 | 1050 | 650 |
| 1C(6) | 3009 (15) | 1590 (12) | 6631 (16) | 2145 | 1753 | 2376 | 691 | 1330 | 685 |
| 1C(7) | 3555 (10) | 2472 (11) | 6684 (12) | 1010 | 2186 | 1769 | 666 | 825 | 1147 |
| 1 C (8) | 3259 (8) | 3633 (10) | 7300 (9) | 730 | 1863 | 924 | -301 | 194 | 329 |
| $1 \mathrm{C}(9)$ | 2526 (8) | 4312 (8) | 6353 (9) | 851 | 1113 | 1156 | -264 | 531 | 291 |
| 2 O | 6269 (4) | 4029 (5) | 4477 (5) | 629 | 997 | 685 | -166 | 237 | 226 |
| 2N | 4174 (5) | 3665 (5) | 3240 (6) | 627 | 916 | 702 | 81 | 331 | 184 |
| 2C(1) | 5300 (7) | 3558( 7) | 4226 (7) | 683 | 883 | 563 | 20 | 312 | 125 |
| 2C(2) | 5361 (8) | 2782 (9) | 4973 (8) | 778 | 1545 | 696 | -256 | 229 | 397 |
| 2C(3) | 5766 (10) | 1655 (10) | 4482 (11) | 1273 | 1535 | 1362 | -155 | 253 | 861 |
| 2C(4) | 5055 (11) | 1122 (9) | 3026 (14) | 1335 | 889 | 2164 | 45 | 637 | 541 |
| 2C(5) | 5554 (10) | 1401 (10) | 2193 (12) | 938 | 1442 | 1573 | 139 | 671 | 29 |
| 2C(6) | 4566 (12) | 1451 (12) | 804 (12) | 1337 | 2000 | 1341 | -156 | 551 | $-110$ |
| 2C(7) | 3751 (10) | 2357 (11) | 633 (10) | 1126 | 2023 | 819 | 197 | 443 | 170 |
| 2C(8) | 4347 (10) | 3521 (9) | 1274 (9) | 1248 | 1548 | 901 | -67 | 425 | 618 |
| $2 \mathrm{C}(9)$ | 3982 (8) | 4216 (8) | 2282 (9) | 761 | 955 | 1053 | 128 | 262 | 501 |
| 30 | 1559 (6) | 6054 (6) | 1566 (6) | 986 | 1753 | 1070 | 215 | 520 | 648 |
| 3 N | 632 (7) | 6391 (8) | -385 (7) | 932 | 1838 | 757 | -231 | 317 | 284 |
| 3C(1) | 631 (9) | 6521 (10) | 688 (9) | 949 | 1984 | 969 | 128 | 495 | 847 |
| $3 \mathrm{C}(2)$ | -246 (10) | 7261 (11) | 1027 (11) | 1152 | 2162 | 1234 | 531 | 655 | 953 |
| 3C(3) | 156 (14) | 8372 (14) | 1682 (16) | 1722 | 2292 | 2241 | -183 | 1212 | -24 |
| 3C(4) | 646 (12) | 9068 (12) | 1327 (12) | 1639 | 2099 | 1471 | 705 | 910 | 959 |
| $3 \mathrm{C}(5)$ | 2073 (13) | 8869 (13) | 1788 (11) | 1760 | 2565 | 820 | -1009 | 129 | 107 |
| 3C(6) | 2446 (16) | 8833 (15) | 839 (18) | 2258 | 2513 | 2424 | -739 | 1175 | 521 |
| 3C(7) | 2451 (14) | 7919 (13) | -92 (23) | 2112 | 2507 | 1490 | -784 | 840 | 680 |
| $3 \mathrm{C}(8)$ | 2705 (10) | 6753 (12) | -12 (11) | 860 | 2347 | 1330 | 2 | 554 | 368 |
| 3C(9) | 1635 (9) | 5990 (9) | -681 (9) | 977 | 1567 | 727 | 137 | 448 | 209 |


(1)

(2)

(3)

Fig. 1. The three pelargolactam molecules (from left to right: 1,2 and 3 ) viewed along a direction perpendicular to the mean plane of the ten-membered ring. The vibration ellipsoids are drawn at the $25 \%$ probability level (Johnson, 1965).

Table 2. Tripelargolactam oxonium chloride: calculated hydrogen positions $\left(\times 10^{3}\right)$
Assumptions: $\mathrm{CH}_{2}, \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}, 1.09 \AA, \mathrm{HCH}, 106^{\circ}$, local $C_{2 v}$ symmetry; $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}, 1 \cdot 00 \AA$ along bisector $\mathrm{C}(1) \mathrm{NC}(9)$.

|  | $x / a$ | $y / b$ | $z / c$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{H}(1 \mathrm{~N})$ | 136 | 340 | 431 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) \mathrm{l}$ (2) | -157 | 312 | 388 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 1 \mathrm{C}(2)$ | -58 | 278 | 316 |
| H(1) 1C(3) | -76 | 171 | 499 |
| H(2) 1C(3) | -109 | 111 | 333 |
| H(1) 1C(4) | 59 | 26 | 445 |
| H(2) 1C(4) | 120 | 128 | 420 |
| H(1) 1C(5) | 137 | 237 | 662 |
| H(2) 1C(5) | 153 | 100 | 671 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) \mathrm{C}$ (6) | 355 | 146 | 763 |
| H(2) 1C(6) | 318 | 87 | 596 |
| H(1) 1C(7) | 459 | 237 | 723 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 1 \mathrm{C}(7)$ | 331 | 242 | 566 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) \mathrm{IC}(8)$ | 273 | 358 | 780 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) \mathrm{IC}(8)$ | 415 | 407 | 809 |
| H(1) 1C(9) | 227 | 510 | 687 |
| H (2) 1C(9) | 312 | 453 | 602 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2 \mathrm{~N})$ | 342 | 335 | 315 |
| H(1) 2C(2) | 602 | 312 | 604 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 2 \mathrm{C}(2)$ | 443 | 273 | 488 |
| H(1) $2 \mathrm{C}(3)$ | 677 | 170 | 478 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 2 \mathrm{C}(3)$ | 571 | 111 | 500 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 2 \mathrm{C}(4)$ | 507 | 22 | 285 |
| H(2) $2 \mathrm{C}(4)$ | 406 | 136 | 265 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 2 \mathrm{C}(5)$ | 606 | 220 | 275 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 2 \mathrm{C}(5)$ | 626 | 79 | 212 |
| H(1) 2C(6) | 506 | 140 | 24 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 2 \mathrm{C}(6)$ | 398 | 70 | 32 |
| H(1) 2C(7) | 314 | 225 | -44 |
| $\mathbf{H}(2) 2 \mathrm{C}(7)$ | 312 | 232 | 102 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 2 \mathrm{C}(8)$ | 538 | 346 | 175 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 2 \mathrm{C}(8)$ | 407 | 393 | 49 |
| H(1) 2C(9) | 453 | 499 | 280 |
| H (2) $2 \mathrm{C}(9)$ | 298 | 445 | 177 |
| $\mathrm{H}(3 \mathrm{~N})$ | -17 | 660 | -112 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 3 \mathrm{C}(2)$ | -115 | 723 | 11 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 3 \mathrm{C}(2)$ | -44 | 694 | 166 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 3 \mathrm{C}(3)$ | -66 | 881 | 174 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 3 \mathrm{C}(3)$ | 88 | 838 | 271 |
| H(1) 3C(4) | 11 | 894 | 24 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 3 \mathrm{C}(4)$ | 50 | 994 | 177 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 3 \mathrm{C}(5)$ | 263 | 952 | 271 |
| H (2) 3C(5) | 233 | 809 | 207 |
| H(1) 3C(6) | 185 | 943 | 29 |
| H (2) $3 \mathrm{C}(6)$ | 341 | 918 | 142 |
| H (1) $3 \mathrm{C}(7)$ | 151 | 789 | -98 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 3 \mathrm{C}(7)$ | 313 | 810 | -35 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 3 \mathrm{C}(8)$ | 335 | 640 | -41 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 3 \mathrm{C}(8)$ | 323 | 677 | 105 |
| $\mathrm{H}(1) 3 \mathrm{C}(9)$ | 125 | 579 | -177 |
| $\mathrm{H}(2) 3 \mathrm{C}(9)$ | 197 | 521 | -41 |

As can be seen from Fig. 1, molecules 1 and 2 seem to librate around an axis running approximately through the atoms O and $\mathrm{H}(\mathrm{N})$. The calculated meansquare librational amplitudes are 7.8 and $8.6^{\circ}$ for molecules 1 and 2 respectively (a value of $7 \cdot 4^{\circ}$ was found for an equivalent libration in pelargolactam hemihydrochloride). For molecule 3 the rigid-body analysis gives a large translational component with $U=0.186$ $\AA^{2}$ in a direction approximately perpendicular to the plane of the amide group.

The dimensions of the amide group in molecules 1 and 2 differ very little from those of the standard trans-peptide group (Marsh \& Donohue, 1967). The
$p K_{a}$ of the protonated amide group in the mediumring lactams is about the same as that of $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{O}^{+}$ (Huisgen, Brade, Walz \& Glogger, 1957). In any case, the amide groups can be at most $\frac{1}{3}$ protonated, and their dimensions should not differ too much from those of the unprotonated pelargolactam molecule.


Fig. 2. Tripelargolactam oxonium chloride. Pyramidal coordination and hydrogen-bonding parameters of chloride anion and oxonium cation.


Fig. 3. The crystal structure of tripelargolactam oxonium chloride projected on the (010) plane. Atoms of the layer common to ( $a$ ) and ( $b$ ) are marked with black circles and its hydrogen bonds with full lines: (a) double layer with approximate $\overline{3}$ point symmetry (electrostatic interaction $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{O}^{+} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$); (b) double layer with $\overline{1}$ point symmetry (hydrophobic contact).

Table 3. Tripelargolactam oxonium chloride: molecular parameters ( $\AA$ and degrees)
E.s.d.'s are in the range $0.007-0.020 \AA$ for bond lengths, $0.7-1.5^{\circ}$ for bond angles and $1.5-3.0^{\circ}$ for torsion angles. Values in parentheses are strongly affected by large thermal motion or disorder (see Discussion).

| C(1)-O | 1.254 | 1.260 | 22) | $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}$ | 121.6 | 122.1 | (116.5) | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | -16 | -168.9 | - 158.9) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1 \cdot 307$ | 1.315 | $(1 \cdot 257)$ | $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $122 \cdot 6$ | 122.6 | $121 \cdot 1$ | $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $93 \cdot 2$ |  | $87 \cdot 1$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.495 | 1.504 | (1-459) | $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 115.8 | 115.3 | (121.9) | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | -48.4 | -52.2 | -49.3 |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 1.530 | (1-492) | $(1 \cdot 409)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $110 \cdot 5$ | 112.3 | $115 \cdot 8$ | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $79 \cdot 2$ | 87.0 | $81 \cdot 1$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $(1.405)$ | (1-482) | $(1 \cdot 407)$ | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | (122.7) | 116.6 | (128.5) | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $-144.3$ | -146 | 136.6) |
| C(4)-C(5) | 1.518 | 1.556 | $1 \cdot 552$ | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $115 \cdot 5$ | 115.0 | 111.8 | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $85 \cdot 1$ | 73.9 | $89 \cdot 1$ |
| C(5)-C(6) | $(1 \cdot 482)$ | 1.509 | $(1 \cdot 422)$ | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $116 \cdot 0$ | 115.9 | $115 \cdot 5$ | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $44 \cdot 0$ | $54 \cdot 6$ | (32.8) |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | (1-357) | (1-408) | (1-347) | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | (122-8) | 119.6 | (125.3) | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | $-112.4$ | -118.8 | -102.5) |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $1 \cdot 520$ | 1.536 | 1.496 | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 119.7 | 118.0 | (128.8) | $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}$ | 51.7 | $50 \cdot 4$ | $50 \cdot 2$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | $(1-488)$ | (1-496) | $(1-457)$ | $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | $115 \cdot 4$ | 112.5 | 118.6 | $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 75.7 | $76 \cdot 3$ | 71.6 |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)$ - N | 1.474 | 1.438 | 1.433 | $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}$ | 111.8 | 112.5 | 114.7 | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}$ | $9 \cdot 2$ | 7.5 | $13 \cdot 4$ |

The crystal structure is built from hydrogen-bonded layers which show approximate trigonal symmetry. Each chloride anion is hydrogen bonded to three amide nitrogens and each oxonium cation to three amide oxygens related by the approximate threefold axis. Again molecules 1 and 2 show almost identical hydro-gen-bond lengths (Fig. 2) but, for above-mentioned reasons, distances involving atoms of molecule 3 are less reliable. Although the analysis did not permit location of the hydrogen atoms involved in the short $\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ hydrogen bonds and fast proton exchange between the four oxygens of comparable basicity is likely to occur, the almost trigonal environment of the central oxygen atom makes it seem more appropriate to speak of an oxonium cation rather than of a water molecule. The oxonium ion is expected to be pyramidal, and in a recent neutron-diffraction analysis of an oxonium salt an $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}$ angle of $110 \cdot 4^{\circ}$ has been observed (Lundgren \& Williams, 1973). The coordination of the central oxygen by the three amide oxygens in the present compound is only very slightly pyramidal if we take the $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}(2)$ angle of $118.4^{\circ}$ as a reference value. The coordination of the chlorine anion is, however, strongly pyramidal, the $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}-$ $\mathrm{N}(2)$ angle being $103 \cdot 9^{\circ}$.

The layers, which are parallel to the (010) plane, have a polar side consisting of amide groups, chloride anions and oxonium cations, and an apolar side consisting of methylene groups. The next layer on the polar side is obtained by inversion at a centre of symmetry. As can be seen from Fig. 3(a) chloride anions and oxonium cations of the two layers are nearly superimposed in projection along the threefold axes, the $\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ distance being $4.35 \AA$. A similar arrangement of chloride anions and oxonium cations has been observed in the crystal structure of hydrochloric acid monohydrate (Yoon \& Carpenter, 1959) with a corresponding distance of $4.22 \AA$.

The attractive electrostatic interactions between anions and cations thus lead to the formation of double layers, which show approximately $\overline{3}$ point symmetry. Both sides of such a double layer are dominated by the hydrocarbon chains to give non-polar surfaces that contain cavities at their intersections with the threefold axes. Two double layers, related by inversion at centres with $y=0$, are packed together in such a way that the
hydrocarbon chains of one layer penetrate into the cavities of the other. Thereby the trigonal symmetry is lost and the surroundings of the three molecules become different [Fig. 3(b)]. The hydrocarbon chain of molecule 1 lies above an oxonium ion, that of molecule 3 above a chloride ion, and that of molecule 2 above an empty region of the structure. For molecule 1 the shortest distance of a methylene carbon to the oxonium oxygen is more than $6 \AA$, whereas for molecule 3 the $\mathrm{C}(5) \cdots \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$distance is around $4 \cdot 5 \AA$. It is interesting to note that the oxonium cation and the chloride anion show large mean-square vibrational amplitudes of 0.485 and $0.425 \AA$ respectively in the direction of the threefold axis. It seems plausible to attribute this to an inversion vibration of the oxonium ion, analogous to the well known $\mathrm{NH}_{3}$ inversion vibration. This motion would be transmitted most strongly in the direction of the vibration so that the chloride anions above and below the oxonium oxygen would be most affected. Since a large translational vibration in the same direction with mean-square amplitude of $0.43 \AA$ was found for molecule 3 in the rigid-body analysis and since molecule 3 lies above or below a chlorine anion, the transmission of this motion to molecule 3 seems possible.

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[^0]:    * Parts XIX-XXV and XXVII appear as Short Structural Papers on pp. 268-288.

[^1]:    * A list of structure factors is given by Winkler (1973) and has been deposited with the British Library Lending Division as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 30624 (4 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 13 White Friars, Chester CH 11 NZ , England.

