Acta Cryst. (1982). B**38**, 1399

Structure Reports

Volume 44B of *Structure Reports* has recently been published. It covers the literature for organic compounds for 1978, is bound in two parts (572 pages and 707 pages) and costs 374 Netherlands guilders for subscribers with standing orders. The full price for individual copies is 440 guilders but personal subscribers may buy a copy for their own use at 220 guilders.

Orders may be placed direct with the publisher, D. Reidel Publishing Company, PO Box 17, 3300 AA Dordrecht, The Netherlands, or with any bookseller. Trade orders should be sent to Reidel.

Acta Cryst. (1982). B**38**, 1399

Fifty Years of Electron Diffraction

Fifty Years of Electron Diffraction was published in 1981 by D. Reidel Publishing Company for the International Union of Crystallography and is edited by Peter Goodman, CSIRO, Melbourne, Australia. This important publication is the first of its kind to present the history and the current status report of this rapidly growing subject. It provides a valuable reference source for students and researchers in the associated fields of crystallography, scattering physics, molecular structures in gases and the electron microscopy of solids. Part I gives a lively, newly researched account of the pioneer period, 1924–1928, when industrial research and early quantum mechanics produced the first definite evidence for electron diffraction. Part II completes the history with memoirs from 36 of the most distinguished scholars in the field. Part III is a text-level reference on six branches of the subject, ranging from scattering theory through to structure analysis. Liberally illustrated, the volume incorporates a comprehensive literature survey.

Both cloth- and paper-bound copies are available at 155 and 80 Netherlands guilders respectively. Orders may be placed direct with the publisher, D. Reidel Publishing Company, PO Box 17, 3300 AA Dordrecht, The Netherlands, or with any bookseller. Trade orders should be sent to Reidel.

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Commission on Journals

Decisions taken at meetings in Ottawa, August 1981

The attention of authors planning to submit papers to *Acta Crystallographica* or *Journal of Applied Crystallography* is drawn to the following decisions taken by the Commission on Journals at meetings held in Ottawa, 14–16 August 1981. These and other revisions in editorial policy since 1978 will be published in a new version of *Notes for Authors*, which is presently in preparation.

International Symbols for Units

The Commission has recognized that, although multiples of 10^3 are the preferred prefixes in the SI System of Units, the centimetre is not prohibited by the SI system and therefore density and absorption coefficients may be given in units of g cm^{-3} and cm^{-1} respectively, if authors so wish. In all other cases, however, authors are asked to use the recommended prefixes of decimal multiples and submultiples of the SI units rather than using '$\times 10^n$'.

Structural Papers

Estimated standard deviations for B_{eq}: The requirement of estimated standard deviations on equivalent values of the Debye–Waller factor was reviewed. The Commission agreed that the significance of such estimated standard deviations may be ambiguous. In the case of high anisotropy, the estimated standard deviation is necessarily large although the individual anisotropic paramcters may be well determined. In future, the presence of unusual anisotropy should be referred to in the text (including the maximum and minimum amplitudes and any nonpositive-definite coefficients found), or in the table of B_{eq} (by use of an asterisk), or illustrated by a plot of the atomic vibrational ellipsoids.

Calculated hydrogen-atom coordinates: Calculated hydrogen-atom coordinates will be published in future only at the Co-editor's discretion and if they are necessary to the understanding of the paper. They will otherwise be deposited.

Graphical chemical formulae: A graphical structural formula should always be given in the report of a structure determination of an organic or organometallic compound. The figure showing the atomic positions is not adequate for this purpose. However, a plot of the atomic vibrational ellipsoids can be used to illustrate atomic positions. Authors should ensure that such plots are of good contrast and quality. The numbering of atoms should be consistent throughout a paper and, as far as possible, correspond to the systematic name [*Acta Cryst.* (1982). B**38**, 700].

Least-squares planes: Least-squares planes and the deviations from them will only be published if they are referred to in the text of the paper and are significant in the consideration of the structure. They will otherwise be deposited.

Absorption correction: In a structural paper the absorption correction, if any, should always be described and the maximum and minimum corrections stated.

Melting point: In a structural paper the melting point of a compound should always be given if it is known.

Stereofigures: The requirement on stereofigures is one per structure unless the Co-editor and referees feel that more are necessary for the understanding of the structure described in the paper. These stereoviews must fit into a single column (80 mm wide). Authors are reminded that a nonstereo view (half a pair) is often an acceptable alternative to the stereo pair. In stereo pairs the relative sizes of the molecule and the whole figure should be such that when the figure is printed in a column of 80 mm, the individual atoms are easily distinguishable. The center-to-center separation in stereofigures must not exceed 55 mm.

In a charge density paper only one or two figures are required to illustrate the techniques or results described: any