

Fig. 1. The molecule of $\mid\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{P} \mathrm{I}_{2} \mathrm{PtCl}_{2}$, showing the atomic numbering.
closest $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}(o)$ approach is 3.61 (1) $\AA$, to $\mathrm{C}(123)$, too long to indicate incipient ortho-metallation. The title compound appears to be significantly more crowded than either of the parallels cited above, from its $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{P}$ angle $\mid 103.0$ (1) vs 94.5 and $96.2^{\circ} \mid$. It also shows the single large $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}-M$ angle [here $120 \cdot 2$ (4) ${ }^{\circ}$ ] similar to those of 120.7 and $121.5^{\circ}$ found in the notably overcrowded $\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}\right\} \mathrm{PdCl}_{2}$ (Alcock, Kemp \& Wimmer, 1981). However, the conformation around Pt shows only slight deviations from planarity with Cl and P atoms alternately up and down by $\pm 0.07 \AA$. This is probably better viewed as a twist between the
$\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{P}$ plane and the $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{Cl}$ plane, of 5.1 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$. The title compound is also more crowded than the ortho-metallated compound for which the PPtP angle is $106.0^{\circ}$ and the twist angle is $1.5^{\circ}$.

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# Tetrakis(4-ethylpyridinium) Decavanadate 

By T. Debaerdemaeker<br>Sektion für Röntgen- und Elektronenbeugung, Universität Ulm, D-7900 Ulm, Federal Republic of Germany<br>J. M. Arrieta<br>Departamento de Química, Universidad del Pais Vasco, PO Box 644, Bilbao, Spain<br>and J. M. Amigo*<br>Departamento de Cristalografía y Mineralogía, Universidad del Pais Vasco, PO Box 644, Bilbao, Spain

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#### Abstract

NHC}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{9}\right]_{4}\left[\mathrm{~V}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{28}\right.\) ], monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / n$, $a=19.473$ (2), $b=9.938$ (1), $c=11.965$ (4) $\AA$, $\beta=$ $92.26(1)^{\circ}, V=2314.8 \AA^{3}, \mu($ Mo $K \alpha)=17.35 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$, $D_{m}($ pycnometric method $)=D_{x}=2.00 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$ for

^[ * Present address: Facultad de Ciencias Químicas, Universidad de Valencia, Bursasot (Valencia), Spain. ]


$Z=2$. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined to a final $R$ value of 0.08 for 2842 observed reflexions. The 4-ethylpyridinium groups are bonded to the oxygens of the decavanadate anion by an intermolecular hydrogen bond between the pyridine nitrogen and the most basic oxygens of the decavanadate group. This group consists of ten distorted $\mathrm{VO}_{6}$ octahedra that
share edges and is basically the same as that in the analogous inorganic decavanadates.

Introduction. Yellow-orange crystals of tetrakis-(4-ethylpyridinium) decavanadate, with a nearly hexagonal cross-section, have been synthetized for the first time by one of us (Arrieta, 1980). The chemical analysis of $\mathrm{V}, \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{H}$ and N gave the following calculated (experimental) results: $\mathrm{V}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5} 65.3(65 \cdot 2)$, C 24.2 (24.1), H $3.0(3.0)$, N $4.0(4.3 \%)$. Vanadium was analysed as $\mathrm{V}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ after calcination for 2 h at 823 K .

The intensities of 3014 independent reflexions ( $\theta_{\text {max }}=$ $25^{\circ}$ ) were collected on a Philips PW 1100 four-circle diffractometer (Mo $K \alpha$ radiation, graphite monochromator, $\omega-2 \theta$ scan) using a crystal $0.15 \times 0.12 \times$ 0.02 mm . The 2842 reflexions with $I_{h k l} \geq 1.5 \sigma(I)$ were considered as observed and included in the refinement. The relative intensities were corrected for the usual Lorentz-polarization factors. No absorption correction was made.

The structure was solved by direct methods using the MULTAN 78 computer system (Main, Hull, Lessinger, Germain, Declercq \& Woolfson, 1978). The computation of an $E$ map with the phases of the set with the highest 'combined figure of merit' revealed the position

Table 1. Atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic temperature factors

|  | $U_{\text {eq }}=\frac{1}{3} \sum_{i} \sum_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ |
| $V(1)$ | 0.5693 (1) | 0.0418 (2) | 0.5749 (1) | 0.023 (2) |
| $V(2)$ | 0.5829 (1) | -0.0929 (2) | 0.3396 (1) | 0.027 (2) |
| $V(3)$ | 0.4656 (1) | 0.2608 (2) | 0.4683 (1) | $0 \cdot 027$ (2) |
| V (4) | 0.6187 (1) | 0.2086 (2) | 0.3790 (1) | 0.030 (2) |
| V (5) | 0.4901 (1) | 0.1306 (2) | 0.2363 (1) | 0.030 (2) |
| O(6) | 0.5243 (3) | 0.0793 (6) | 0.4211 (5) | 0.008 (5) |
| O(7) | 0.4152 (3) | 0.0141 (7) | 0.2929 (5) | 0.010 (6) |
| $\mathrm{O}(8)$ | 0.6347 (3) | $0 \cdot 1410$ (7) | 0.5428 (5) | 0.012 (6) |
| O(9) | 0.5588 (3) | 0.3338 (7) | 0.4561 (6) | $0 \cdot 016$ (6) |
| O(10) | 0.4307 (4) | 0.3939 (7) | 0.5176 (6) | 0.022 (7) |
| O(11) | 0.5370 (3) | -0.0245 (7) | 0.2150 (5) | 0.011 (6) |
| O(12) | 0.5040 (3) | $0 \cdot 1778$ (6) | 0.6169 (5) | 0.007 (6) |
| O(13) | 0.6847 (4) | 0.3011 (7) | $0 \cdot 3644$ (6) | 0.022 (7) |
| O(14) | 0.6214 (4) | -0.2183 (7) | 0.2871 (6) | 0.019 (7) |
| O(15) | 0.5997 (3) | -0.1211 (6) | $0 \cdot 5010$ (5) | 0.013 (6) |
| O(16) | 0.4457 (4) | 0.2672 (7) | 0.3264 (6) | 0.015 (7) |
| O(17) | 0.5700 (3) | 0.2300 (7) | 0.2486 (5) | 0.014 (6) |
| O(18) | 0.6489 (3) | 0.0399 (7) | 0.3392 (5) | 0.013 (6) |
| O(19) | 0.4596 (4) | $0 \cdot 1639$ (8) | $0 \cdot 1145$ (6) | 0.022 (7) |
| N(20) | 0.1948 (5) | 0.4434 (11) | 0.6283 (8) | 0.075 (12) |
| C(21) | 0.1628 (6) | 0.5094 (12) | 0.5424 (10) | 0.046 (13) |
| C(22) | $0 \cdot 1819$ (6) | 0.4859 (12) | 0.4385 (10) | 0.045 (12) |
| C(23) | 0.2348 (6) | 0.3946 (13) | 0.4166 (10) | 0.049 (13) |
| C(24) | 0.2664 (7) | 0.3277 (13) | 0.5071 (10) | 0.053 (14) |
| $\mathrm{C}(25)$ | 0.2453 (6) | 0.3520 (14) | 0.6145 (10) | 0.054 (14) |
| C(26) | 0.2541 (9) | 0.3704 (16) | 0.2979 (12) | 0.076 (18) |
| C(27) | 0.2506 (12) | 0.2246 (19) | $0 \cdot 2655$ (15) | 0.103 (24) |
| N(30) | 0.0459 (4) | $0 \cdot 1852$ (10) | 0.2941 (8) | 0.061 (10) |
| C(31) | 0.0644 (6) | 0.0556 (12) | 0.2758 (10) | 0.049 (13) |
| C(32) | 0.0873 (6) | -0.0215 (12) | 0.3655 (9) | 0.044 (12) |
| C(33) | 0.0923 (5) | 0.0300 (12) | 0.4714 (9) | 0.040 (12) |
| C(34) | 0.0737 (6) | 0.1655 (13) | 0.4863 (10) | 0.051 (13) |
| C(35) | 0.0500 (6) | 0.2400 (12) | 0.3952 (9) | 0.044 (12) |
| C(36) | 0.1165 (7) | -0.0544 (15) | 0.5679 (11) | 0.064 (15) |
| C(37) | 0.1914 (9) | -0.0725 (30) | $0 \cdot 5708$ (19) | 0.154 (38) |

Table 2. Interatomic angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ )
The superscript (i) refers to the symmetry operation $\bar{x}+1, \bar{y}, \bar{z}+1$.

| $\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | -V(3) | 90.4 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(11)-\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(18)$ | 92.9 (3) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | -V(4) | 60.2 (1) | $-\mathrm{O}\left(12^{1}\right)$ | 88.7 (5) |
|  | -V(1) | 60.0 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(15)-\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(18)$ | 90.9 (3) |
|  | -V( $2^{1}$ ) | 117.7 (1) | $-\mathrm{O}\left(12^{1}\right)$ | 78.0 (4) |
|  | -V(3) | 57.7 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(18)-\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}\left(12^{1}\right)$ | 155.5 (5) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{\text {i }}\right.$ ) | 117.8 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(9)$ | 78.2 (2) |
| $\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{\prime}\right)$ | 57.5 (1) | -O(10) | 171.8 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{1}\right)$ | 56.2 (1) | -O(12) | 73.9 (2) |
|  | -V(3') | 117.4 (1) | -O(16) | 83.0 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{\prime}\right)$ | 114.8 (1) | -O(151) | 79.3 (4) |
| $\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | -V(1) | 89.7 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(9)-\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(10)$ | 97.4 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ | 118.7 (1) | -O(12) | 84.7 (3) |
|  | -V(3) | 117.9 (1) | -O(16) | 94.9 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{1}\right)$ | 176.0 (1) | -O(15') | 153.9 (5) |
| $V\left(1^{1}\right)-V(1)$ | $-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ | 57.7 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(10)-\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(12)$ | 99.0 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(3^{\prime}\right)$ | 59.8 (1) | -O(16) | 104.4 (4) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{1}\right)$ | 86.3 (1) | -O(15i) | 103.3 (5) |
| $\mathrm{V}\left(2^{1}\right)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | $-\mathrm{V}\left(3^{\prime}\right)$ | 90.4 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(12)-\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(16)$ | $156 \cdot 5$ (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{\text { }}\right.$ ) | 58.6 (1) | -O(15) | 76.6 (4) |
| $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{V}(2)$ | -V(4) | 58.6 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(16)-\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}\left(15^{1}\right)$ | 95.2 (5) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | 89.0 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(8)$ | 73.0 (2) |
|  | -V(1) | 62.3 (1) | -O(9) | 76.0 (2) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(3^{\prime}\right)$ | 60.9 (1) | -O(13) | 173.6 (3) |
| $\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{V}(2)$ | $-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | 59.5 (1) | -O(17) | 82.0 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{\prime}\right)$ | 90.2 (1) | -O(18) | 79.4 (3) |
|  | -V(3') | 119.5 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(8)-\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(9)$ | 80.3 (3) |
| $\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{V}(2)$ | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 58.8 (1) | -O(13) | 101.4 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(3^{1}\right)$ | 120.4 (1) | -O(17) | 154.8 (3) |
| $V(1)-V(3)$ | $-V(4)$ | 56.6 (1) | -O(18) | 85.0 (3) |
|  | -V(5) | 87.5 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(9)-\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(13)$ | $100 \cdot 5$ (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 62.7 (1) | -O(17) | 91.7 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{1}\right)$ | 62.1 (1) | -O(18) | 154.1 (3) |
| $V(4)-V(3)$ | $-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | 57.7 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(13)-\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(17)$ | 103.6 (4) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 89.3 (1) | -O(18) | 103.2 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{1}\right)$ | 118.7 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(17)-\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(18)$ | 92.6 (3) |
| $\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{V}(3)$ | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 59.5 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{O}(11)$ | 79.7 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ | 120.8 (1) | -O(16) | 75.3 (2) |
| $\begin{aligned} & V\left(1^{\prime}\right)-V(3) \\ & V(1)-V(4) \end{aligned}$ | $-V\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ | 61.4 (1) | -O(17) | 80.4 (3) |
|  | $-V(2)$ | 61.2 (1) | -O(19) | 174.6 (3) |
|  | -V(3) | 60.9 (1) | -O(7) | 74.8 (4) |
|  | -V(5) | 90.9 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(11)-\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{O}(16)$ | 154.5 (3) |
| $\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{V}(4)$ | $-V(3)$ | 90.1 (1) | -O(17) | 92.2 (3) |
|  | -V(5) | 60.0 (1) | -O(19) | 102.7 (3) |
|  | $-V(5)$ | 59.0 (1) | -O(7) | 86.2 (5) |
| $V(2)-V(5)$ | $-\mathrm{V}(3)$ | 92.9 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(16)-\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{O}(17)$ | 88.5 (3) |
|  | -V(4) | 60.5 (1) | -O(19) | 101.7 (3) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 62.6 (1) | -O(7) | 82.6 (5) |
| $V(3)-V(5)$ | -V(4) | 63.3 (1) | $\mathrm{O}(17)-\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{O}(19)$ | 104.2 (4) |
|  | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | $60 \cdot 3$ (1) | -O(7) | 155.1 (5) |
| $V(4)-V(5)$ | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 93.1 (1) | $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(2)$ | 92.5 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | -O(7) | 163.1 (5) | $-\mathrm{V}(3)$ | 97.2 (2) |
|  | -O(8) | 89.4 (3) | -V(4) | 89.0 (2) |
|  | -O(6) | 78.0 (4) | $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | 171.1 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O}(7)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | -O(8) | 107.4 (5) | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 102.0 (4) |
|  | -O(6) | 85.2 (4) | $\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(3)$ | 169.5 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O}(12)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | -O(6) | 81.0 (2) | -V(4) | 84.8 (2) |
|  | -O(7) | 94.7 (5) | -V(5) | 83.6 (2) |
|  | -O(8) | 99.3 (3) | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 91.6 (4) |
|  | -O(15) | 155.9 (3) | $\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(4)$ | 91.4 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O}(15)-\mathrm{V}(1)$ | -O(6) | 82.5 (3) | -V(5) | 86.2 (2) |
|  | -O(7) | 96.0 (5) | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{\prime}\right)$ | 90.2 (4) |
|  | -O(8) | 97.9 (3) | $\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | 82.7 (2) |
|  | -O(6) | 79.7 (4) | $-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{1}\right)$ | 168.6 (5) |
| $\begin{aligned} & O\left(6^{1}\right)-V(1) \\ & O(6)-V(2) \end{aligned}$ | -O(8) | 167.3 (5) | $\mathrm{V}(5)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}\left(1^{\prime}\right)$ | 86.2 (3) |
|  | -O(11) | 80.5 (3) | $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{O}(7)-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{1}\right)$ | 113.6 (5) |
|  | -O(14) | $176 \cdot 8$ (3) | $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{O}(8)-\mathrm{V}(4)$ | 108.6 (3) |
|  | -O(15) | 75.8 (2) | $\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(9)-\mathrm{V}(4)$ | 111.7 (3) |
|  | -O(18) | 80.0 (3) | $V(5)-O(11)-V(2)$ | 115.5 (3) |
|  | -O(12) | 76.2 (4) | $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{O}(12)-\mathrm{V}(3)$ | 105.9 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O}(14)-\mathrm{V}(2)$ | -O(11) | 101.0 (3) | -V(2) | $110 \cdot 4$ (5) |
|  | -O(15) | $102 \cdot 3$ (3) | $\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(12)-\mathrm{V}\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ | 96.4 (4) |
|  | -O(18) | 102.8 (3) | $\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{O}(15)-\mathrm{V}(2)$ | 106.6 (3) |
|  | -O(12) | 101.0 (5) | $-\mathrm{V}\left(3^{\prime}\right)$ | 107.3 (5) |
| $\mathrm{O}(15)-\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(11)$ |  | 155.0 (3) | $\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(15)-\mathrm{V}\left(3^{1}\right)$ | 101.8 (5) |
|  |  |  | $\mathrm{V}(3)-\mathrm{O}(16)-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | 115.4 (4) |

## Table 2 (cont.)

| $\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{O}(17)-\mathrm{V}(5)$ | $114.7(4)$ | $\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(18)-\mathrm{V}(4)$ | $114.9(3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{N}(20)-\mathrm{C}(25)$ | $123(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(31)-\mathrm{N}(30)-\mathrm{C}(35)$ | $122(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(20)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(22)$ | $119(1)$ | $\mathrm{N}(30)-\mathrm{C}(31)-\mathrm{C}(32)$ | $119(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(23)$ | $121(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(31)-\mathrm{C}(32)-\mathrm{C}(33)$ | $122(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(24)$ | $118(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(32)-\mathrm{C}(33)-\mathrm{C}(34)$ | $118(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(26)$ | $120(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(32)-\mathrm{C}(33)-\mathrm{C}(36)$ | $121(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(24)-\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(26)$ | $123(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(34)-\mathrm{C}(33)-\mathrm{C}(36)$ | $121(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(24)-\mathrm{C}(25)$ | $120(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(33)-\mathrm{C}(34)-\mathrm{C}(35)$ | $120(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(24)-\mathrm{C}(25)-\mathrm{N}(20)$ | $118(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(34)-\mathrm{C}(35)-\mathrm{N}(30)$ | $120(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(26)-\mathrm{C}(27)$ | $113(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(33)-\mathrm{C}(36)-\mathrm{C}(37)$ | $112(1)$ |

of the V atom and its six nearest oxygen neighbours of the polyanion. The remaining atoms of the molecule ( N and C atoms) were found by successive refinements and Fourier synthesis.

The atom parameters were refined using the $S H E L X$ 76 program (Sheldrick, 1976) until the shifts were smaller than the corresponding standard deviations. During the first five cycles isotropic thermal parameters were used and the $R$ index reached the value $0 \cdot 11$; during the five following cycles, anisotropic thermal parameters were used and the $R$ index dropped to the final value of 0.08 . The H atoms were not taken into account in this work.

The final atomic positions are given in Table 1.* The V-O distances are given in Fig. 1. Fig. 2 shows the $\mathrm{V}-\mathrm{V}$ distances and Fig. 3 shows a projection of the whole molecule on the $y z$ plane as well as the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$, $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}$ and $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{O}$ distances. The bond angles are given in Table 2.

[^1]

Fig. 1. A general view of the decavanadate molecule showing the V-O distances ( $\AA$ ).


Fig. 2. A view of the vanadium frame in the decavanadate molecule. (Distances in $\AA$.)


Fig. 3. A complete view of the decavanadate molecule with the surrounding ethylpyridinium molecules.

Discussion. The decavanadate group consists of ten distorted $\mathrm{VO}_{6}$ octahedra that share edges. One half of the molecule is related to the other by a centre of symmetry located between $O(6)$ and $O\left(6^{i}\right)$. Within the molecule there are two O atoms, each surrounded by six V atoms at the corners of an octahedron. The $\mathrm{VO}_{6}$ octahedra show a considerable distortion due to the mutual repulsion of the V atoms with the consequence that the $\mathrm{V}(4)-\mathrm{V}(1)-\mathrm{V}\left(5^{\mathrm{i}}\right)$ angle is reduced from 180 to 176.0 (1) ${ }^{\circ}$ and the $\mathrm{V}(2)-\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{V}(3)$ angle to 169.5 (3). In order to understand this distortion Kepert (1973) has interpreted it by taking into account the $\mathrm{V}-\mathrm{O}$ distances versus the number of V atoms bonded to each of the O atoms. This interpretation agrees with our experimental results. The maximum and minimum distances for oxygen bonded to six V atoms are 2.34 and $2.05 \AA$ (mean $2.24 \AA$ ), to three V atoms 2.08 and $1.93 \AA$ (mean $1.98 \AA$ ), to two V atoms 2.01 and $1.67 \AA$ (mean $1.86 \AA$ ), to one V atom 1.61 and $1.59 \AA$ (mean $1.60 \AA$ ). These distances are in agreement with those found by Evans (1966), Shallow, Ahmed \& Barnes (1966) and Durif, Averbuch-Pouchot \& Guitel (1980) in inorganic decavanadates.

Other distances of interest are those between the N atom of the pyridine ring and the O atoms of the decavanadate group. The $\mathrm{N}(30)-\mathrm{O}(12)$ and $\mathrm{N}(20)-\mathrm{O}(18)$ distances are respectively 2.63 (2) and 2.73 (2) $\AA$. These distances are typical for very strong intermolecular hydrogen bonds.

Our X-ray structural data agree with the results found by Klemperer \& Shum (1977), who have determined the protonation positions in the $\mathrm{V}_{10} \mathrm{O}_{28}^{6-}$ ion by means of ${ }^{17} \mathrm{O}$ NMR, and, according to their work, the sequence of negative charge on the oxygens in our decavanadate ion would be $\mathrm{O}(10)=\mathrm{O}(14) \simeq \mathrm{O}(19)=$ $\mathrm{O}(13)<\mathrm{O}(7)=\mathrm{O}(8)<\mathrm{O}(17)<\mathrm{O}(9)=\mathrm{O}(16)=$ $\mathrm{O}(11)=\mathrm{O}(18)<\mathrm{O}(15)=\mathrm{O}(12)<\mathrm{O}(16)$. As $\mathrm{O}(6)$ is inaccessible to the protons and, of course, to the larger groups such as the 4-ethylpyridinium group, the sequence predicts $O(12)$ and $O(18)$ as the most basic $O$ atoms, $\mathrm{O}(12)$ being more basic than $\mathrm{O}(18)$. This, added to the steric effects of such a large group, explains why the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{O}(12)$ distance is slightly shorter than the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{O}$ (18) distance.

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# catena- $\mu$-[1,2-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]-dicyanomercury(II) 

By Mercedes Camalli, Francesco Caruso and Luigi Zambonelli<br>Istituto di Strutturistica Chimica 'Giordano Giacomello', CNR, A rea della Ricerca di Roma, CP 10, 00016 Monterotondo Stazione, Italy

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#### Abstract

C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{24} \mathrm{HgN}_{2} \mathrm{P}_{2}, M_{r}=651 \cdot 05\), triclinic, space group $P \overline{1}, \quad a=9.586(2), \quad b=11.793(2), c=$ 12.343 (2) $\AA, \alpha=104.55$ (1), $\beta=107.69$ (1), $\gamma=$ $97.74(1)^{\circ}, V=1252.6(4) \AA^{3}, Z=2, d_{c}=1.726$, $d_{x}=1.70$ (1) $\mathrm{g} \mathrm{cm}^{-3}$ (flotation in $\mathrm{ZnI}_{2}$ solution), Mo $K \alpha$ radiation, $\lambda=0.71069 \AA, \mu=62.86 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$, $F(000)=627.422$. The structure was determined by a least-squares procedure from the measured angular positions of 15 reflections. Final $R=0.056$ for 3704 independent observed reflections. The structure is built up by packing of infinite chains of $\left[\mathrm{Hg}(\mathrm{CN})_{2}\left\{\mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]_{n}$. The two $\mathrm{Hg}-\mathrm{P}$ bonds are significantly different: $2 \cdot 606$ (3) and 2.534 (4) $\AA$. No short contacts occur between the chains in the crystal.

Introduction. Lattice constants and intensity measurements were performed on a computer-controlled


automatic Syntex $P 2_{1}$ diffractometer using graphitemonochromatized Mo $K \alpha$ radiation and a colourless crystal of dimensions $0.04 \times 0.12 \times 0.15 \mathrm{~mm}$.

Intensities of the reflections up to $\theta=28^{\circ}$ were measured by the $\omega$-scan technique at a scan rate automatically chosen between 2.0 and $29.3^{\circ} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ with a scan range of $1.0^{\circ}$. Background counts were taken, at $1.0^{\circ}$ from the peak position, for the scan time. The intensity of three standard reflections, measured for every 100 , remained constant throughout the run.

The intensity data were processed as previously described (Bachechi, Zambonelli \& Marcotrigiano, 1977), using an uncertainty factor $p=0.004$, calculated from the variance of the standard reflections (McCandlish, Stout \& Andrews, 1975). The values of $I$ and $\sigma(I)$ were corrected for Lorentz, polarization and shape-anisotropy effects.


[^1]:    * Lists of structure factors and anisotropic thermal parameters have been deposited with the British Library Lending Division as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 36868 ( 14 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CHI 2HU, England.

