Note on the Structures of the Gallium and Indium Trihalides

By D. P. Stevenson¹ and Verner Schomaker

Brode² recently published the results of an electron-diffraction investigation of the structures of the so-called trihalides of aluminum, gallium and indium. We believe that the interatomic distances which he reported (given in row a of the table) have been falsified by his application of an unsuitable "correction,"³ and that the values given below in rows b and c are significantly more reliable. Row b gives the values found by Brode with the use of the usual correlation method⁴ (omitting the Wierl correction), while those of row c are the ones we have obtained by the appli-

TABLE I

AVERAGE M-X BOND LENGTHS IN THE TRIHALIDES OF

		Cl	Br	I
Ga	a	2.16	2.35	2.40^d
	ь	2.22	2.41	2.48
	٢	2.22	2.34	2.50
In	a	2.39	2.49	2.67
	Ъ	2.46	2.56	2.76
	c	2.46	2.58	2.76

^a Brode's "corrected" value. ^b Brode's uncorrected value. ^c From the first peaks of the radial distribution functions. ^d GaI_s, coplanar equilateral triangle. ima of the radial distribution functions substantiate Brode's conclusion that under the conditions of his experiments gallium tri-iodide is monomeric and coplanar, whereas the five other trihalides are dimeric. Inasmuch as we could not take account of the minima, for which Brode reported no measurements, the radial distribution functions tend to show spurious features, in these cases beyond the first two peaks, and we can draw no conclusions with regard to the conformation of the dimers.

THE GATES AND CRELLIN LABORATORIES OF CHEMISTRY CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PASADENA, CALIFORNIA RECEIVED JULY 13, 1942

NEW COMPOUNDS

Some N-Aralkyl Barbituric Acids

The N-benzyl and N-phenethyl derivatives of amytal and neonal have been prepared by conventional methods from the corresponding malonic esters and benzyl and phenethyl ureas. They were crystallized from hexane. Data on these substances are presented in the table. The benzyl and phenethyl nembutals were also prepared, but, although general identity was shown by analysis, they were not obtained in a satisfactorily homogeneous condition.

TABLE I

1-ARALKYL-5-ETHYL-5-ALKYL BARBITURIC ACIDS

				101	A ma 1		
	n	M. p.,	731.	Cal	cd.	Foi	ind IT
Ri	\mathbf{R}_2	-C.	Formula	C	н	C	н
n-C₄H ₉	$C_6H_5CH_2$	64	$C_{17}H_{22}O_{3}N_{2}$	67.50	7.34	67.79	7.59
n-C₄H ₉	$C_6H_5CH_2CH_2$	74	$C_{18}H_{24}O_3N_2$	68.31	7.64	68.76	7.83
i-C ₅ H ₁₁	C6H5CH2	8788	$C_{13}H_{24}O_{3}N_{2}$	68.31	7.64	68.38	7.56
i-C ₅ H ₁₁	C6H5CH2CH2	106-107	$C_{19}H_{26}O_3N_2$	69.05	7.93	69.18	7.87

cation of the radial distribution method⁵ to his data. These two sets of values agree reasonably well except in the case of Ga_2Br_8 .

The bond angle values (\angle XMX) indicated by the relative positions of the first and second max-

(1) Present address, Shell Development Company, Emeryville, California.

(2) Brode, Ann. Physik, 37, 344 (1940).

(3) The correction is one due to Wierl (*ibid.*, **8**, 521 (1931)), and implies a procedure of measurement different from that which has been found suitable by Pauling and his co-workers. Almost certainly this correction should not have been applied to Brode's measurements, for his measurements on aluminum chloride agree well with those reported by Palmer and Elliott (THIS JOURNAL, **60**, 1852 (1938)).

(4) L. Pauling and L. O. Brockway, J. Chem. Phys., 2, 867 (1934).
(5) L. Pauling and L. O. Brockway, THIS JOURNAL, 57, 2684
(1935); V. Schomaker, A. C. S. meeting. Baltimore, Md., April, 1939.

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ALAN ARDIS JOHANNES S. BUCK RICHARD BALTZLY

RECEIVED AUGUST 5, 1942

Chaulmoogryl Quaternary Salts¹

Since favorable bacteriological results have been obtained with methiodides and benzochlorides from mixtures of chaulmoogryl and hydnocarpyldimethylamines, it was decided to prepare some pure substances of this type.

Chaulmoogryl bromide² was heated in a bomb-tube at 105-110° with 33% methanolic dimethylamine in excess.

(1) Dittmar. Z. Krebsforsch., 49, 515 (1939), mentions a "Chaulmoogryl Zephirol." So far as the authors know these compounds have not been described.

(2) Sacks and Adams, THIS JOURNAL, 48, 2397 (1926).