# Reactions of Carbonyl Compounds with Tervalent Phosphorus Reagents. Part IV. ${ }^{1}$ Structure of a Tetracyclone-Dimethyl Phosphonate Adduct revised by $\boldsymbol{X}$-Ray Crystal Analysis 

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The structure of the $\alpha \beta$-unsaturated ketone product of the thermal reaction of tetracyclone with dimethyl phosphonate has been determined by $X$-ray single-crystal analysis. The unit cell is triclinic with a $=12.088 \pm 0.005$. $b=15.817 \pm 0.005, c=8.914 \pm 0.005 \AA, \alpha=82.6 \pm 0.1^{\circ} . \beta=119.0 \pm 0 \cdot 1^{\circ}, \gamma=120.9 \pm 0.01^{\circ} ; Z=2$, space group PT. The structure was solved from diffractometer data by direct methods, and refined by block-diagonal least-squares techniques to $R 0.083$ for 4828 observed reflections. The adduct is now shown to be a $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$-ketophosphonate and steric factors are believed to control its formation.

The reactions between cyclopenta-2,4-dienones and dimethyl phosphonate (la) are extremely complex, ${ }^{2-4}$


(1) $\mathrm{a}: \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{OMe}$
(2) $a ; R=P h$ $b: R=M e$

(4) $a ; R=P h$
$b: R=M e$

(5)
and the products formed are largely dependent upon experimental conditions (see Scheme). Among the products two different types of $\alpha \beta$-unsaturated ketone have been described. These are the ketones (3a) and (3b), reported ${ }^{2}$ to be formed when 2,3,4,5-tetraphenyl-cyclopenta-2,4-dienone [tetracyclone (2a)] is treated with (la) in the presence of morpholine, and the ketone (4a), isolated from a reaction of (2a) when heated under reflux in an excess of dimethyl phosphonate. ${ }^{3}$ The structures (3a) and (3b) were assigned ${ }^{2}$ by analogy with the adduct (5), from methyl phenylphosphinate and (2a), while that of (4a) was based ${ }^{3}$ on analogy with the structure of the adduct (4b), formed by 2 -methyl-3,4,5-triphenylcyclopenta-2,4-dienone (2b) and (1a). In view of the apparent contrast in the structures (3) and (4) it was felt that additional evidence should be obtained, and we now report the $X$-ray crystallographic analysis of the ketophosphonate to which structure (4a)
${ }_{1}$ Part III, W. M. Horspool, S. T. McNeilly, J. A. Miller, and I. M. Young, J.C.S. Perkin I, 1972, 1113.
${ }^{2}$ M. J. Gallacher and I. D. Jenkins, J. Chem. Soc. (C), 1971, 210.
has been assigned. Arbusov and his colleagues have independently expressed ${ }^{4}$ a similar doubt about the assignment of structure (3a) or (4a) to the $\alpha \beta$-unsaturated ketonic product of these reactions.
experimental and results
Crystal Data.- $\mathrm{C}_{31} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{P}, \quad M=494 \cdot 5$. Triclinic, $a=$ $12.088 \pm 0.005, b=15 \cdot 817 \pm 0.005, c=8.914 \pm 0.004 \AA$, $\alpha=82.6 \pm 0.05^{\circ}, \beta=119.0 \pm 0.05^{\circ}, \gamma=120.9 \pm 0.05^{\circ}$, $U=1262.8 \AA^{3}, D_{\mathrm{c}}=1.300, Z=2, D_{\mathrm{m}}=1.293 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$, $F(000)=520$. No systematic absences, space group P1 or $P \overline{1}$; intensity statistics indicated the crystal to be centrosymmetric, the latter therefore adopted. $\mathrm{Cu}-K_{\alpha}$ radiation, $\lambda=1.5418 \AA ; \mu\left(\mathrm{Cu}-K_{\alpha}\right)=13.27 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.

Crystallographic Measurements.-Short prisms were obtained by crystallisation from light petroleum-benzene; (001), ( 100 ), and ( 010 ) faces were well developed. Intensities were collected on a Wooster four-circle diffractometer from crystals mounted on the $a, b$, and $c$ axes. No corrections were made for absorption but all the intense reflections were measured with a small crystal, ground to an approximate sphere. 4828 Reflections had intensities large enough to be accepted as observed.

Structure Analysis.-The observed structure factors were analysed by means of a Wilson plot to obtain an approximate absolute scale and an overall isotropic temperature factor ( $B 4 \cdot 1 \AA^{2}$ ). The $F_{0}$ values were converted into normalized structure factors $(E)$ by means of a computer program supplied by Dr. P. Main. The $408 E$ values $>1.77$ were used to derive phases. The following reflections were selected to fix the origin and each was given a phase of $0^{\circ}: 2, \overline{9}, 5,10, \overline{1}, \overline{4}$, and $1, \overline{1}, 4$. Four further reflections: $3, \overline{14}, 6,9, \overline{13}, \overline{3}, 0,4,5$, and $\mathbf{7}, \overline{1}, 0$ were selected as starting phases for the direct phase-determination process, each, in turn, having phases of 0 or $180^{\circ}$. There were 16 sets of phases, including the trivial solution where all phases are $0^{\circ}$. A figure of merit is calculated for each set and the highest value was the trivial solution. The set of phases with the next highest figure of merit gave the
${ }^{3}$ J. A. Miller, G. M. Stevenson, and B. C. Williams, J. Chem. Soc. (C), 1971, 2714.
${ }^{4}$ A. V. Fuzhenkova, A. F. Zinkovskii, and B. A. Arbuzov, Dohlady Akad. Nautk S.S.S.R., 1971, 201, 632 (Chem. Abs., 1972, 76, 127 092).


Scheme Reported ractions of tetracyclone with dimethyl phosphonate: (i) Morpholine at $20{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ref. 2); (ii) heating under reflux (ref. 3); (iii) $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$ (ref. 3) or $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}$ (ref. 4) at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
correct solution. An (E) Fourier synthesis was computed and 22 of the highest peaks could be identified as forming a reasonable molecule. The highest peak (twice the height of the next highest) was assumed to be the phosphorus atom. Structure factors ( $F_{\mathrm{c}}$ ) were now calculated for all observed reflections with the co-ordinates obtained for the 22 peaks; $R$ was then $0 \cdot 486$. From further $F_{o}$

## Table 1

Fractional co-ordinates, with estimated standard deviations in parentheses

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{P}(1)$ | $0 \cdot 5343(3)$ | 0.2358(2) | $0 \cdot 2066$ (4) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $0 \cdot 3636(8)$ | $0 \cdot 1584(6)$ | 0.0937(10) |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $0 \cdot 5939(8)$ | $0 \cdot 3202(6)$ | $0 \cdot 1250$ (10) |
| $\bigcirc(3)$ | $0 \cdot 6067(7)$ | $0 \cdot 1706(5)$ | 0.2549(9) |
| $\mathrm{O}(4)$ | $0 \cdot 3506(7)$ | 0.0912(6) | $0 \cdot 6251$ (10) |
| C(1) | $0 \cdot 3937(10)$ | 0-1508(7) | $0 \cdot 5366$ (13) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $0 \cdot 3411$ (9) | 0.2178(7) | 0.4467(13) |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $0 \cdot 4221$ (9) | $0 \cdot 2770$ (7) | $0 \cdot 3705(12)$ |
| C(4) | $0 \cdot 5501$ (9) | $0 \cdot 2629$ (7) | 0.4144 (12) |
| C(5) | $0.5128(9)$ | $0 \cdot 1648(7)$ | $0 \cdot 5004(13)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $0 \cdot 7023(9)$ | $0 \cdot 3522(7)$ | $0.5346(12)$ |
| C(7) | $0 \cdot 8291(10)$ | $0 \cdot 3692(7)$ | $0.5408(14)$ |
| C(8) | $0 \cdot 9670$ (11) | 0.4476(9) | $0.6581(15)$ |
| C(9) | $0 \cdot 9828(12)$ | $0 \cdot 5078$ (9) | 0.7683 (16) |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)$ | $0 \cdot 8575$ (12) | 0.4932(9) | $0 \cdot 7656$ (17) |
| C(11) | $0 \cdot 7181(10)$ | $0.4141) 8$ ) | $0 \cdot 6490$ (14) |
| C(12) | $0 \cdot 3891$ (9) | $0 \cdot 3451(7)$ | $0.2514(12)$ |
| C(13) | $0 \cdot 2440$ (10) | $0 \cdot 3085$ (8) | $0 \cdot 1189(14)$ |
| C(14) | $0 \cdot 2048(11)$ | $0 \cdot 3673$ (9) | $0 \cdot 0017(16)$ |
| C(15) | $0 \cdot 3111(11)$ | $0 \cdot 4655(8)$ | $0 \cdot 0155$ (15) |
| C(16) | $0 \cdot 4546(11)$ | $0 \cdot 5036$ (8) | $0 \cdot 1455$ (15) |
| C(17) | $0 \cdot 4961$ (10) | $0 \cdot 4431$ (8) | $0 \cdot 2608$ (15) |
| $\mathrm{C}(18)$ | $0 \cdot 2198(9)$ | $0 \cdot 2163$ (7) | $0 \cdot 4509$ (13) |
| C(19) | $0 \cdot 0920$ (10) | $0 \cdot 1263$ (8) | $0 \cdot 4235$ (14) |
| $\mathrm{C}(20)$ | -0.0205(11) | $0 \cdot 1245(9)$ | $0 \cdot 4335(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21)$ | -0.0056(12) | $0 \cdot 2130(10)$ | $0 \cdot 4724(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22)$ | $0 \cdot 1211(12)$ | $0 \cdot 3040$ (9) | $0 \cdot 4983$ (18) |
| C(23) | $0 \cdot 2315(11)$ | $0 \cdot 3046$ (8) | $0 \cdot 4852(15)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(24)$ | $0 \cdot 6395(10)$ | $0 \cdot 1615(8)$ | $0.6578(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(25)$ | $0 \cdot 6989(12)$ | $0 \cdot 2084(9)$ | $0.8224(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(26)$ | $0 \cdot 8119(17)$ | $0 \cdot 1975$ (13) | $0.9674(19)$ |
| C(27) | $0 \cdot 8569(15)$ | $0 \cdot 1397(11)$ | $0.9422(21)$ |
| C(28) | $0 \cdot 7996(14)$ | $0 \cdot 0935$ (10) | $0 \cdot 7796(21)$ |

Table 1 (Contimued)

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C(29) | $0 \cdot 6913(11)$ | 0•1047(8) | $0 \cdot 6360$ (16) |
| $\mathrm{C}(30)$ | $0.5564(13)$ | $0 \cdot 0874(10)$ | $0 \cdot 1397$ (18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(31)$ | $0 \cdot 2781$ (16) | $0 \cdot 1580(13)$ | -0.0908(20) |
| $\mathrm{H}(\mathrm{l})[\mathrm{C}(7)]$ | $0 \cdot 8197$ | $0 \cdot 3218$ | $0 \cdot 4572$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(2)[\mathrm{C}(8)]$ | I.0606 | $0 \cdot 4612$ | $0 \cdot 6577$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(3)[\mathrm{C}(9)]$ | 1.0880 | $0 \cdot 5636$ | $0 \cdot 8604$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(4)[\mathrm{C}(10)]$ | $0 \cdot 8672$ | $0 \cdot 5417$ | $0 \cdot 8511$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(5)[\mathrm{C}(11)]$ | $0 \cdot 6241$ | $0 \cdot 4029$ | $0 \cdot 6481$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(6)[\mathrm{C}(13)]$ | $0 \cdot 1614$ | $0 \cdot 2321$ | $0 \cdot 1085$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(7)[\mathrm{C}(14)]$ | $0 \cdot 0892$ | 0.3344 | $-0.0952$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(8)[\mathrm{C}(15)]$ | $0 \cdot 2799$ | 0.5114 | $-0.0747$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(9)[\mathrm{C}(16)]$ | $0 \cdot 5403$ | 0.5805 | $0 \cdot 1597$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(10)[\mathrm{C}(17)]$ | $0 \cdot 6089$ | 0.4704 | 0.3543 |
| $\mathrm{H}(11)[\mathrm{C}(19)]$ | 0.0798 | 0.0578 | $0 \cdot 3917$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(12)[\mathrm{C}(20)]$ | $-0.1174$ | $0 \cdot 0555$ | $0 \cdot 4106$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(13)[\mathrm{C}(21)]$ | -0.0909 | $0 \cdot 2107$ | 0.4837 |
| $\mathrm{H}(14)[\mathrm{C}(22)]$ | $0 \cdot 1336$ | $0 \cdot 3743$ | 0.5255 |
| $\mathrm{H}(15)[\mathrm{C}(23)]$ | $0 \cdot 3308$ | $0 \cdot 3734$ | 0.5091 |
| $\mathrm{H}(16)[\mathrm{C}(20)]$ | $0 \cdot 6474$ | $0 \cdot 0681$ | 0.5080 |
| $\mathrm{H}(17)[\mathrm{C}(28)]$ | $0 \cdot 8441$ | 0.0538 | $0 \cdot 7698$ |
| $\mathrm{H}(18)[\mathrm{C}(27)]$ | 0.9359 | 0.1307 | 1.0511 |
| $\mathrm{H}(19)[\mathrm{C}(26)]$ | $0 \cdot 8562$ | $0 \cdot 2310$ | 1.0994 |
| $\mathrm{H}(20)[\mathrm{C}(25)]$ | $0 \cdot 6563$ | $0 \cdot 2493$ | $0 \cdot 1811$ |

syntheses it was possible to identify 36 atoms which had reasonable peak heights and sensible bond lengths and angles. A structure-factor calculation with 2799 reflections and assuming one phosphorus atom and 35 'carbons' with an overall temperature factor $B$ of 3.0 gave $R 0 \cdot 27$. At this point the oxygen atoms were identified and subsequent least-squares refinement (blockdiagonal) reduced $R$ to $0 \cdot 15$. The positions of the hydrogen atoms were now calculated and included in all calculations of structure factors but they were not themselves refined. The final $R$, after refining non-hydrogen atoms with anisotropic temperature parameters, was 0.083 . Final atomic co-ordinates are given in Table 1, and temperature parameters in Table 2. The numbering of the atoms is shown in Figure 1 together with bond lengths and angles. The standard deviation for the $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{C}$ bond is 0.010 , and for the $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds they are $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}(1) 0.009$,

TABLE 2
Temperature parameters
(a) Anisotropic temperature parameters * $(\times 105)$

| Atom | $b_{11}$ | $b_{12}$ | 13 | $b_{22}$ | $b_{23}$ | $b_{33}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{I})$ | 1332 (2) | 836(2) | 1404(4) | 412(1) | 461(3) | 1396(4) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $1595(8)$ | 927(8) | 991(14) | 675(4) | 132(12) | 1418(12) |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | 2037(8) | 943(9) | 2429(14) | 587(4) | 806(12) | 1856(12) |
| $\mathrm{O}(3)$ | 1769(6) | 1107(5) | 1569(11) | 534(3) | -96(9) | 2018(11) |
| $\mathrm{O}(4)$ | 1430(7) | 953(8) | 2341(13) | $601(4)$ | 1358(12) | 2385(12) |
| C(I) | 1074(8) | 660(9) | 1177(16) | 435(4) | 504(14) | 1448(15) |
| C(2) | 0969(8) | 644(8) | 1075(15) | 418(4) | 330 (14) | 1412(14) |
| C(3) | 0947(8) | 564(8) | 857(15) | 365(4) | 300 (13) | 1267(14) |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 0936(7) | 640(7) | 990 (14) | 371 (4) | 333 (13) | 1334(13) |
| C(5) | 1002(8) | 679(8) | 1062(16) | 420(4) | 510(14) | 1425(14) |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 981 (8) | 612(8) | 986(14) | 397(4) | 421(13) | 1348(14) |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $1158(9)$ | 760(9) | 1206(17) | 495(5) | 437(15) | 1630(16) |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1292(11) | 919(11) | 1565(20) | 645(6) | 768(19) | 1981(19) |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)$ | 1500(11) | 934(12) | 1278(23) | 636(6) | 545(20) | 2091(21) |
| C(10) | 1614(12) | 1048(11) | 1447(22) | 645(6) | 148(20) | 2080(21) |
| C(11) | 1195(9) | 797 (10) | 1203(17) | 538(5) | 212(16) | 1676(17) |
| C(12) | 967(8) | 649(8) | 1072(15) | 379(4) | 364 (13) | 1414(14) |
| C(13) | 1216 (9) | 766(10) | 1240(18) | 515(5) | 685(16) | 1746(17) |
| C(14) | 1330(10) | 976(11) | 1321(21) | 649(6) | 860(19) | 2011(19) |
| C(15) | 1406(10) | 1038(10) | $1530(20)$ | 568(5) | 810(18) | 2075(19) |
| C(16) | 1370 (10) | 904(10) | 1543(19) | 494(5) | $710(17)$ | 2015(18) |
| C(17) | 1259(10) | 775(10) | 1189 (19) | 474(5) | 725(16) | 1884(18) |
| C(18) | 0980(8) | 612 (8) | 1055(15) | 432(4) | 388(14) | $1389(14)$ |
| C(19) | $1196(9)$ | 788(9) | 1360(18) | 531 (5) | 624(16) | 1895(17) |
| $\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 1302(10) | 870(11) | 1680 (20) | 666(6) | 767(19) | 2156(19) |
| C(21) | 1468(11) | 1172(13) | 2039(22) | 852(7) | 708(22) | 2415(22) |
| $\mathrm{C}(22)$ | 1616(11) | 1286(12) | 2126(23) | 733(7) | 357(21) | 2601 (23) |
| $\mathrm{C}(23)$ | $1254(9)$ | 847(10) | 1566(18) | 567(5) | 250 (17) | 1961(18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(24)$ | $1148(9)$ | 710 (10) | 1227(18) | 478(5) | 746(16) | 1627(16) |
| $\mathrm{C}(25)$ | 1696(12) | 885(13) | 1606(23) | 694(7) | 922(20) | 1937(19) |
| $\mathrm{C}(26)$ | 2180(19) | 752(24) | 2181(31) | 1020(11) | 1439(28) | 2424(24) |
| C(27) | 1657(15) | 1149(17) | $1671(33)$ | 986(9) | 1794(27) | 3310 (29) |
| C(28) | 1641(14) | 1484(14) | 2313(31) | 876(7) | 1619(26) | 3342 (29) |
| $\mathrm{C}(29)$ | 1307(10) | 975(10) | 1555(20) | 617 (5) | 895(18) | 2219(20) |
| C(30) | 1855(12) | 1492(12) | 2107(25) | 722(6) | -227(21) | 2657(25) |
| C(31) | 2338(17) | 1601(19) | 2096 (30) | 1200(11) | 332 (30) | 2347(27) |

(b) Isotropic temperature parameters


Table 3
Equations of mean planes in the form: $l X+m Y+n Z=$ $d$ where $X, Y$, and $Z$ are co-ordinates in $\AA$ relative to the orthogonal axes. $\dagger$ The deviations of the atoms from the plane ( $\AA$ ) are given in square brackets. Atoms marked * are not included in the derivation of the plane. [Planes $(A),(B),(C)$, and $(D)$ refer to the aromatic rings]

| Atoms | $l$ | $m$ | $n$ | $d$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Plane $(A)$ | -0.989 | -0.675 | 0.679 | 0.133 |

$[C(6)-0.004, C(7) 0.001, C(8)-0.001, C(9) 0.003, C(10)$ -0.006 , (C11) $0.006, \mathrm{C}(4) * 0.082]$
$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { Plane }(B) & -0.552 & 0.571 & 0.607 & 1.439\end{array}$ $[\mathrm{C}(12) 0.012, \mathrm{C}(13) 0.003, \mathrm{C}(14)-0.008, \mathrm{C}(15)-0.002$, $\left.\mathrm{C}(16) 0.017, \mathrm{C}(17)-0.022, \mathrm{C}(3)^{*} 0.012\right]$
Plane ( $C$ )
$-0.048 \quad-0.206 \quad 0.977 \quad 2.835$
$\left[\mathrm{C}(18) 0.010, \mathrm{C}(19)-0.001, \mathrm{C}(20)^{2}-0.007, \mathrm{C}(21) 0.007\right.$, $\left.\mathrm{C}(22) 0.003, \mathrm{C}(23)-0.011, \mathrm{C}(2)^{*} 0.068\right]$

Table 3 (Continued)
Atoms
Plane ( $D$ )

| $l$ | $m$ | $n$ | $d$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.883 | 0.452 | $-0 \cdot 129$ | 2.386 |

$[\mathrm{C}(24)-0.007, \mathrm{C}(25)-0.004, \mathrm{C}(26) 0.011, \mathrm{C}(27)-0.009$, $\left.\mathrm{C}(28)-0.002, \mathrm{C}(29) 0.010, \mathrm{C}(5)^{*}-0.109\right]$
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Plane }(E) & 0.249 & 0.448 & 0.859 & 4.174\end{array}$ $[\mathrm{C}(1) 0.058, \mathrm{C}(2) 0.000, \mathrm{C}(3)-0.057, \mathrm{C}(4) 0.084, \mathrm{C}(5)-0.084$, $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{I})^{*}-1 \cdot 360, \mathrm{O}(1)^{*}-2 \cdot 556, \mathrm{O}(2)^{*}-1 \cdot 226, \mathrm{O}(3)^{*}$ $-1.544, \quad \mathrm{O}(4)^{*} \quad 0.179, \mathrm{C}(6)^{*} \quad 1.412, \mathrm{C}(12)^{*}-0.287$, $\begin{array}{lllll}\mathrm{C}(18)^{*} & 0.038, & \mathrm{C}(24)^{*} & 0.818, & \mathrm{C}(30)^{*} \\ -3.656]\end{array}$
Angles (deg.) between planes: $(E)-(A) 77 \cdot 9$; $(E)-(C) 42 \cdot 7$; ( $E$ ) $-(B) 50 \cdot 2$; $(E)-(D) 71 \cdot 8$.
$\dagger Z$ is perpendicular to (001), $Y$ is parallel to $b$, and $x$ is perpendicular to $Y$ and $Z$.

(a)

(b)

Figure 1 Bond lengths and angles, together with atom numbering system used in the analysis
$\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}(2) 0.010$, and $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}(3) 0.009 \AA$. Other bonds have standard deviations in the range $0.014-0.024 \AA$. Figure 2 shows a view of the molecule projected on the plane $b c^{*}$.

The only intermolecular distances $<3.5 \AA$ are: $\mathrm{C}(8) \cdots \mathrm{C}^{\prime}(8) 3 \cdot 31, \mathrm{C}(15) \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\prime}(2) 3 \cdot 27, \quad \mathrm{C}(16) \cdots \mathrm{C}^{\prime}(16)$ $3 \cdot 30$, and $\mathrm{C}(30) \cdots \mathrm{C}^{\prime}(30) 3 \cdot 21 \AA$ (primed atoms are in the molecule at $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$.

Observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Supplementary Publications No. SUP 20946 (8 pp.).*


Figure 2 A view of the molecule projected on the $b c^{*}$ plane

## DISCUSSION

The mean planes of the benzene rings are given in Table 3; there are no deviations outside experimental error. The central five-membered ring is also planar.

The $X$-ray analysis reveals that the ketophosphonate, originally assigned structure (4a) is not a $\beta$-ketophosphonate, but is the $\gamma$-ketophosphonate (3a). The cisfusion of the methine hydrogen and the phosphorus

[^0]atoms in (3a), already indicated ${ }^{3}$ by the value of the vicinal coupling constant $[J(\mathrm{PCCH}) 14.0 \mathrm{~Hz}]$, is confirmed. We have found the $\gamma$-ketophosphonate (3a) to be a high-melting solid (m.p. $217-218{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ), $\dagger$ but the phosphonate assigned structure (3a) was isolated as an oil. ${ }^{2}$ This difference, together with the differences in ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ n.m.r. spectra, which have been discussed elsewhere, ${ }^{3}$ indicates that a more detailed examination of the adducts formed in the presence of morpholine might be of interest.

The present result is significant with regard to a general rationalisation of the reactions between cyclopentadienones and reagents containing the $>\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{H}$ group. It has been suggested ${ }^{3}$ that steric factors may be important in controlling product formation, and the fact that dimethyl phosphonate (la) is now known to react with tetracyclone (2a) at the $\beta$-carbon of the ketonic ring, but with ( 2 b ) at the $\alpha$-position, is consistent with this suggestion. Furthermore, the related reactions of the bulkier [with respect to (la)] reagent diphenylphosphine oxide ( lb ) result in attack at the $\alpha$-position with either (2a) or (2b). Previous results ${ }^{2}$ gave grounds for suggesting ${ }^{3}$ that electronic factors were not likely to be decisive in directing addition to either the $\beta$ - or $\alpha$-positions of tetracyclone ( 2 a ), and the contrast between the reactions of diphenylphosphine oxide (lb) and dimethyl phosphonate (la) with tetracyclone (2a) would appear to confirm the dominance of steric effects.

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$\dagger$ A similar m.p. has been reported by M. P. Serridge (Ph.D. Thesis, University of Leicester, 1968; we thank Dr. T. L. Gilchrist for this information) and by the authors in ref. 4.


[^0]:    * See Notice to Authors No. 7 in J.C.S. Perkin II, 1972, Index issue.

