

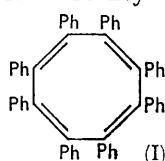
575. The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Octaphenylcyclo-octatetraene

By P. J. WHEATLEY

The crystal structure of octaphenylcyclo-octatetraene has been determined by three-dimensional X-ray methods. The crystals are tetragonal, space group $I4_1/a$, with four molecules in the unit cell. The molecule is thus required to have symmetry 4. The cell dimensions are $a = 19.388$, $c = 10.606 \text{ \AA}$. The final molecular dimensions were obtained from a least-squares analysis of 1229 independent reflexions collected with a Hilger-Watts linear diffractometer. The final R factor was 11.7%. The eight-membered ring consists of alternating single and double bonds of length 1.493 and 1.343 \AA . There are significant angular distortions in the molecule, but all bond lengths adopt the expected values.

A BRIEF Note indicating that the molecule previously described as "octaphenylcubane"¹ is in reality octaphenylcyclo-octatetraene (I) has recently appeared.² Since the Note

was submitted, a structure analysis of cubane itself has appeared,³ and a structure analysis of (I) has been carried out by Professor Lipscomb.⁴ His conclusions are essentially the same as mine but, since the analyses were independent and by different techniques, it appears worthwhile to record the full results separately for comparison.



EXPERIMENTAL

$C_{56}H_{40}$. $M = 712.9$. Tetragonal. $a = 19.388 \pm 0.032$, $c = 10.606 \pm 0.014 \text{ \AA}$. $U = 3986.7 \text{ \AA}^3$. $D_m = 1.20$. $Z = 4$. $D_c = 1.188$. $F(000) = 1504$. Space group $I4_1/a$ (C_{6h}^4 , No. 88).

Excellent crystals (m. p. 425–427°), with [c] as the axis of elongation can be obtained from diphenyl ether.⁵ The cell dimensions were obtained from oscillation photographs taken with Cu-*K* radiation ($\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$). The intensities were collected round [c] with Mo-*K* radiation on a Hilger-Watts diffractometer equipped with SrO-ZrO_2 balanced filters.⁶ One quarter of the reciprocal lattice was covered, so that each independent reflexion and a symmetrically equivalent one was recorded. Moreover four cycles were carried out at each reflecting position, two with each filter in place. An arithmetic mean was then taken of the four corrected counts so obtained. In this way 2557 independent reflexions were obtained, of which 515 (20.1%) were found to be zero. A complete refinement was carried out with these 2557 reflexions but, since the R factor was rather high (19.7%), it was decided to reject all planes whose counts were less than twice the standard deviation of the total counts. In this way 1229 independent reflexions were obtained, and the final parameters are based on this smaller number of reflexions. Whether the refinement was carried out with 2557 or with 1229 reflexions, there were no significant differences in the co-ordinates, but it was felt that the temperature factors might be unduly affected by the inclusion of a large number of weak reflexions and, moreover, that the standard deviations obtained for the temperature factors and for the co-ordinates were artificially low.

The structure was solved from a three-dimensional sharpened Patterson synthesis. Since the structure of an apparently isoelectronic and isomorphous compound has already been determined,⁷ a search was made for vectors corresponding to the face- and body-diagonals of a cube of side 1.54 \AA . No such peaks could be found. Indeed it was very noticeable that a shell of peaks occurred at 1.3–1.4 \AA from the origin, but that no other peaks were present until

¹ H. H. Freedman and D. R. Petersen, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1962, **84**, 2837; H. H. Freedman and R. S. Gohlike, *Proc. Chem. Soc.*, 1963, 249.

² H. P. Thronsdæn, P. J. Wheatley, and H. Zeiss, *Proc. Chem. Soc.*, 1964, 357; G. S. Pawley, W. N. Lipscomb, H. H. Freedman, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1964, **86**, 4725.

³ E. B. Fleischer, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1964, **86**, 3889.

⁴ Personal communication from Professor W. N. Lipscomb and Dr. H. H. Freedman.

⁵ H. P. Thronsdæn and H. Zeiss, *J. Organometallic Chem.*, 1964, **1**, 301.

⁶ U. Arndt and D. C. Phillips, *Acta Cryst.*, 1961, **14**, 807.

⁷ T. R. R. McDonald and W. S. McDonald, *Proc. Chem. Soc.*, 1963, 382.

another shell started at about 2.4 Å. This could only mean that the bonds between carbon atoms enclosed angles of about 120°, and effectively eliminated a cubane structure. Attention was then turned to a model based on cyclo-octatetraene, a structure which had been excluded as a possibility on the basis of the absence of a Raman frequency corresponding to a carbon-carbon double bond.¹ Immediately a satisfactory vector interpretation could be found for the eight-membered ring, and the orientation of the benzene rings rapidly followed. Since the centre of gravity of the molecule must lie at the centre of inversion, a set of trial co-ordinates could be obtained, and three-dimensional refinement started straight away. In all, six refinement cycles were carried out with 2557 reflexions, and three with 1229. All calculations were made on an Elliott 803B computer with the programmes of Daly, Stephens, and Wheatley.² Constant weights were employed, and the least-squares programme uses the block diagonal approximation. The origin of the cell was chosen to lie on a centre of symmetry. Hydrogen atoms were ignored. The final *R* factor was 11.7%.

RESULTS

The final atomic co-ordinates are given in Table 1, and the temperature factors in Table 2. Table 3 lists the observed and calculated structure factors obtained from the parameters given in Tables 1 and 2. Table 4 gives the bond lengths and angles. Figure 1 shows the molecule as it appears when viewed down [c], and the labelling of the atoms. All bond lengths adopt their expected values.³ The eight-membered ring consists of alternating single and double

FIGURE 1. The molecule as it appears when viewed down [c], and the labelling of the atoms

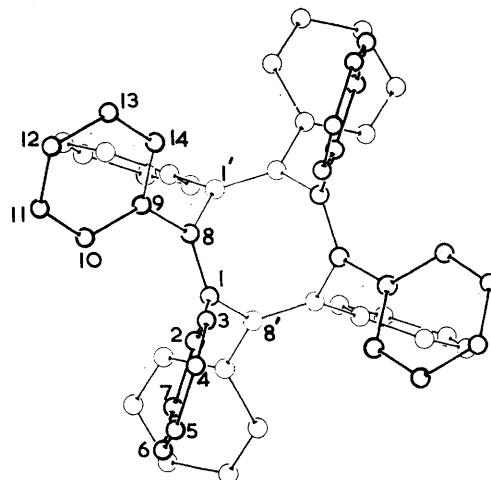


TABLE 1

Atomic co-ordinates in Å. Standard deviations are given as units in the last place

Atom	<i>X</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Z</i>	Atom	<i>X</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Z</i>
C(1)	0.9219(69)	3.6176(65)	1.8883(61)	C(8)	-0.3851(67)	3.3196(64)	1.8350(58)
C(2)	1.8352(71)	3.2204(70)	3.0137(66)	C(9)	-1.0646(69)	2.3926(67)	2.7766(58)
C(3)	1.4185(90)	3.4885(79)	4.3353(67)	C(10)	-0.4982(81)	1.1286(75)	3.0562(76)
C(4)	2.3180(95)	3.1970(87)	5.4042(73)	C(11)	-1.1783(95)	0.2618(87)	3.9223(80)
C(5)	3.5726(88)	2.6449(90)	5.1531(83)	C(12)	-2.4248(99)	0.6224(90)	4.4697(71)
C(6)	3.9721(87)	2.3673(94)	3.8489(88)	C(13)	-2.9988(96)	1.8559(93)	4.1807(77)
C(7)	3.1082(78)	2.6573(85)	2.7589(79)	C(14)	-2.3019(85)	2.7607(79)	3.3144(70)

bonds of length 1.493 and 1.342 Å. The benzene rings are attached to the central ring by bonds, whose mean value is 1.494 Å. The mean length of the twelve bonds in the benzene rings is 1.409 Å. There are no significant departures from either of these mean values. The mean value of the angles within both benzene rings is 120.0°, again with no significant departures. The least-square planes through the benzene rings are defined by the equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{C}(2)-\text{C}(7) &\dots 0.3901X + 0.9181Y - 0.0703Z = 3.4569 \\ \text{C}(9)-\text{C}(14) &\dots 0.4677X + 0.3991Y + 0.7887Z = 2.6394 \end{aligned}$$

⁸ J. J. Daly, F. S. Stephens, and P. J. Wheatley, MRS A Final Report, No. 52.

⁹ L. E. Sutton *et al.*, "Tables of Interatomic Distances," *Chem. Soc. Special Publ.*, 1958, No. 11.

The departure of the benzene carbon atoms from these planes is very slight, the greatest deviation being -0.012 \AA for C(10). On the other hand C(1) lies out of the first plane by $+0.091 \text{ \AA}$, and C(8) out of the second by -0.047 \AA , both of which are significant, so that clearly there is

TABLE 2

Thermal parameters in \AA^2 . Standard deviations are given as units in the last place

Atom	U_{11}	U_{22}	U_{33}	$2U_{12}$	$2U_{23}$	$2U_{13}$
C(1)	0.0508(42)	0.0384(37)	0.0231(29)	0.0062(65)	-0.0015(57)	0.0000(60)
C(2)	0.0492(42)	0.0463(40)	0.0314(34)	-0.0110(67)	0.0129(64)	-0.0160(64)
C(3)	0.0907(62)	0.0553(48)	0.0239(33)	-0.0156(85)	0.0083(68)	-0.0177(78)
C(4)	0.0973(68)	0.0691(56)	0.0302(39)	-0.0178(98)	0.0194(79)	-0.0332(86)
C(5)	0.0733(59)	0.0788(61)	0.0510(50)	-0.0389(95)	0.0508(93)	-0.0534(93)
C(6)	0.0605(55)	0.0855(66)	0.0608(53)	-0.0138(82)	0.0551(99)	-0.0344(92)
C(7)	0.0505(46)	0.0737(55)	0.0471(45)	0.0063(63)	0.0318(85)	-0.0273(76)
C(8)	0.0492(40)	0.0384(37)	0.0201(28)	-0.0042(64)	-0.0086(55)	0.0019(59)
C(9)	0.0500(41)	0.0483(40)	0.0174(28)	-0.0280(64)	0.0069(58)	-0.0002(58)
C(10)	0.0663(51)	0.0499(46)	0.0448(43)	-0.0208(78)	0.0185(74)	-0.0367(79)
C(11)	0.0976(71)	0.0641(55)	0.0431(44)	-0.0487(99)	0.0310(83)	-0.0434(94)
C(12)	0.1110(77)	0.0770(62)	0.0240(36)	-0.0756(111)	0.0018(80)	-0.0025(87)
C(13)	0.0891(67)	0.0835(63)	0.0355(40)	-0.0598(105)	-0.0234(86)	0.0418(89)
C(14)	0.0713(55)	0.0621(50)	0.0308(36)	-0.0272(85)	-0.0100(71)	0.0117(75)

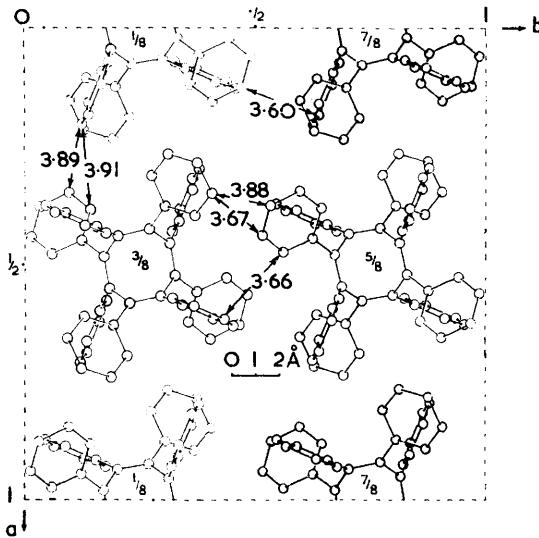
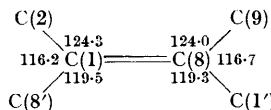


FIGURE 2. The crystal structure as viewed down [c], and some van der Waal's distances. (A right-handed set of axes has been chosen, with [c] pointing upwards. Figures at the centre of each ring give the heights of the centres of inversion above the plane of the paper.)

some angular distortion to accommodate the benzene rings. The situation is even more marked at the ethylene residue



Apart from the significant (and symmetrical) distortions at C(1) and C(8), the six carbon atoms do not lie in one plane. The equation of the plane through the three atoms C(1'), C(8), and C(9) is

$$-0.2137X + 0.7688Y + 0.6027Z = 3.7404,$$

and through C(8'), C(1), and C(2)

$$-0.2604X + 0.8245Y + 0.5024Z = 3.6912.$$

TABLE 4

Bond lengths (\AA) and bond angles with their standard deviations

C(1)–C(8)	1.342(9)	C(1)–C(2)	1.503(10)
C(1)–C(8')	1.493(9)	C(8)–C(9)	1.486(9)
C(2)–C(3)	1.411(11)	C(9)–C(10)	1.413(10)
C(2)–C(7)	1.415(11)	C(9)–C(14)	1.398(10)
C(3)–C(4)	1.427(12)	C(10)–C(11)	1.401(12)
C(4)–C(5)	1.394(12)	C(11)–C(12)	1.408(12)
C(5)–C(6)	1.392(13)	C(12)–C(13)	1.391(13)
C(6)–C(7)	1.421(12)	C(13)–C(14)	1.433(12)
C(8')C(1)C(8)	119.5(6)	C(2)C(3)C(4)	118.5(7)
C(1)C(8)C(1')	119.3(6)	C(3)C(4)C(5)	120.9(8)
C(8')C(1)C(2)	116.2(6)	C(4)C(5)C(6)	120.4(8)
C(1')C(8)C(9)	116.7(5)	C(5)C(6)C(7)	120.2(8)
C(2)C(1)C(8)	124.3(6)	C(6)C(7)C(2)	119.4(7)
C(9)C(8)C(1)	124.0(6)	C(7)C(2)C(3)	120.7(7)
C(1)C(2)C(3)	118.1(6)	C(9)C(10)C(11)	118.8(7)
C(1)C(2)C(7)	121.1(6)	C(10)C(11)C(12)	120.8(8)
C(8)C(9)C(10)	120.0(6)	C(11)C(12)C(13)	120.8(8)
C(8)C(9)C(14)	119.0(6)	C(12)C(13)C(14)	119.0(8)
		C(13)C(14)C(9)	119.8(7)
		C(14)C(9)C(10)	120.9(6)

TABLE 5

Non-bonded intramolecular distances less than 3.10 \AA

C(1)C(3)	2.500	C(2)C(8)	2.516	C(1)C(9')	2.536
C(1)C(7)	2.542	C(1)C(9)	2.497	C(2)C(8')	2.542
C(8)C(10)	2.511	C(3)C(8)	3.088	C(1)C(14')	3.002
C(8)C(14)	2.485	C(1)C(10)	3.095	C(7)C(8')	3.087
C(2)C(9)	3.025	C(1)C(1')	3.073	C(1)C(8')	2.809

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