

THE MOLECULAR AND CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF 2 α -BROMOARBORINONE

THE STRUCTURE OF THE TRITERPENE ARBORINOL

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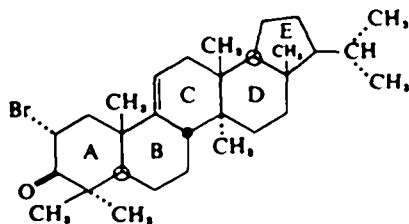
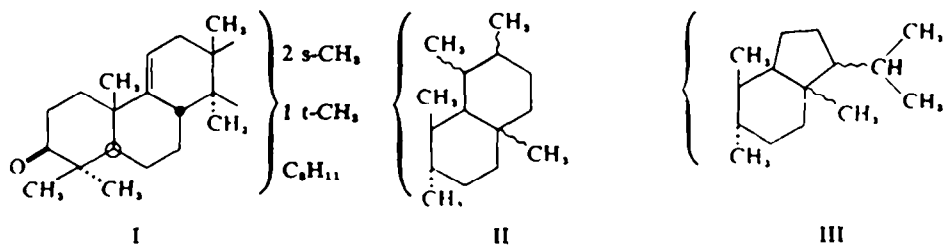
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Abstract—The molecular structure and stereochemistry of the triterpene arborinol was obtained from a three-dimensional X-ray diffraction study of 2 α -bromoarborinone. The molecule is shown to be pentacyclic with a 13 β , 14 α trans configuration of the methyl groups at the C/D ring junction, not previously found among pentacyclic triterpenes. The space group is P2₁2₁2₁, with four molecules in the unit cell: $a = 12.84$ $b = 8.68$ $c = 22.46$ Å. The value of $R = (\sum |F_o| - |F_c|) / \sum |F_o|$ is 12.4% for 1719 observed reflections.

The implications of the structure for the fernene-group of triterpenes are discussed.

RECENTLY, two new triterpene alcohols, arborinol together with its 3-epimer isorborinol were isolated from the leaves of *Glycosmis arborea* (Rutaceae) by Djerassi *et al.*¹ On basis of chemical reactions and a variety of physical measurements including NMR, ORD and mass spectroscopy they deduced that it was a pentacyclic compound with ring structure A, B and C as indicated in I and showed by NMR evidence the



IV 2 α -Bromoarborinone

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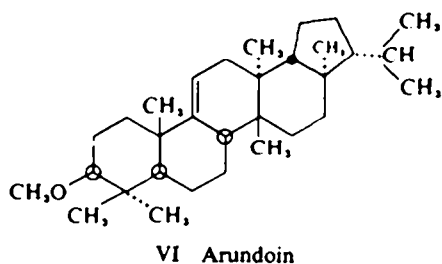
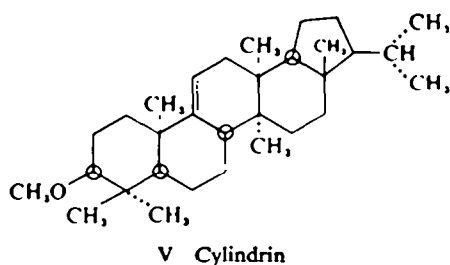
¹ H. Vorbrüggen, S. C. Pakrashi and C. Djerassi, *Liebigs Ann.* **668**, 57 (1963).

presence of two secondary and a t-methyl groups in rings D and E. The $13\beta/14\alpha$ *trans* configuration of the methyl groups at the C/D ring junction deduced by these authors represents an arrangement not previously observed amongst pentacyclic triterpenes and is of considerable biogenetic interest. Since there was insufficient material available to elucidate the full structure of the molecule, we undertook at Professor Djerassi's suggestion the investigation of the structure of arborinol through a three-dimensional X-ray diffraction analysis of the heavy atom derivative 2α -bromoarborinone, prepared for us by Dr. H. Vorbrüggen. The X-ray analysis required only a few milligrams of material. It was deliberately designed to involve minimal assumption about the chemical structure of the molecule so as to provide evidence independent of previous suggestions about the structure of this group of triterpenes.

The X-ray analysis fully confirmed the structure proposed by Djerassi *et al.*¹ and established the position of the remaining atoms in the molecule of 2α -bromoarborinone as indicated in IV. The unusual $13\beta, 14\alpha$ *trans* configuration at the C/D ring junction was verified and interatomic distances accurate to about ± 0.05 Å obtained. A preliminary report on the more chemical aspects of this investigation has already been published.²

Since cylindrin^{3,4} has been shown to be the 3-methyl ether of isoarborinol its full structure can now be written as V.

Cylindrin was obtained by Natori *et al.*^{3,4} from the rhizomes of *Imperata cylindrica* together with a stereoisomeric triterpene arundoin (VI) which was also isolated by Eglinton *et al.*⁵ from *arundo conspicua*. The occurrence of cylindrin (V) and arundoin (VI) in the same plant is biogenetically interesting, since the compounds have an



¹ O. Kennard, L. Riva di Sanseverino, C. Djerassi and H. Vorbrüggen, *Tetrahedron Letters* 3433 (1965).

² K. Nishimoto, M. Ito, S. Natori and T. Ohmoto, *Tetrahedron Letters* 2265 (1965)

³ T. Ohmoto, K. Nishimoto, M. Ito and S. Natori, *Chem. Pharm. Bull. Japan* 13, 224 (1965).

⁴ G. Eglinton, R. S. Hamilton, M. Martin-Smith, S. Smith and G. Subramanian, *Tetrahedron Letters* 2323 (1964).

"antipodal" configuration of rings C, D and E. This "antipodal" steric arrangement of the ring skeleton present in arundoin is also found in fernene (VII), isolated by Ageta *et al.*⁶ from *Dryopteris Crassirhizoma* Nakai (Aspidiaceae), and davallic acid (VIII), isolated by Nakanishi *et al.*⁷ from the rhizomes of a fern *Davallia divaricata*. It is obvious that the spacial relationships in rings C, D and E as derived from our X-ray determination can be compared with those of the corresponding rings of the "antipodal" fernene-group of triterpenes.

Biogenetically, arborinols can be postulated to be formed by a squalene cyclization process involving an intermediary precursor (IX) with ring B in the boat form, followed by a concerted rearrangement to the arborinols (X). Such a boat form is indeed present in the antibiotic fusidic acid (XI) whose correct structure was deduced by Godfredsen *et al.*^{8,9} and firmly established by an X-ray analysis of the crystal structure of fusidic acid bromobenzoate methyl ester by Cooper.¹⁰

EXPERIMENTAL

A heavy atom derivative of arborinol, 2 α -bromoarborinone, was prepared by Dr. H. Vorbrüggen at the Woodward Research Institute, Basel, using a method described previously.¹ It was recrystallized from hexane, needles m.p. 217–220°, which were homogeneous on TLC (silica plate, benzene–hexane (1:1) *R_f* = 0.58). Slow evaporation of a solution of pure bromo-ketone in methylene chloride–hexane resulted in the larger crystals, which were used for the X-ray determination.

Crystal data. 2 α -Bromoarborinone, C₂₆H₄₂OBr, mol. wt = 503.3, m.p. 219–220°. Provenance: see Ref. 1. Orthorhombic, thick dipyrnidal. Twinning common. *a* = 12.84 ± 1, *b* = 8.68 ± 1, *c* = 22.46 ± 4 Å. *V* = 2513 Å³. Density measured by flotation 1.39 gm. cm⁻³. *Z* = 4. *D*_{calc} = 1.34 gm. cm⁻³. Ni filtered Cu radiation: λ_{α_1} = 1.5403 Å λ_{α_2} = 1.5443 Å. Cell dimensions calculated from the separation of $\alpha_1\alpha_2$ doublets on Weissenberg photographs.¹¹ Space group P2₁2₁2₁ from absences. μ = 27.2 cm⁻¹. *F*(000) = 1080.

Intensity data were collected from an approximately cylindrical crystal 0.60 mm long and 0.40 mm in cross-section, prepared by manual grinding. A series of equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs for layers 0–6 were taken about the *b* axis, which enabled the exploration of 76% of the copper sphere. Intensities from multiple film packs were matched visually against a scale prepared from the same crystal. Different layers were put on a common scale by comparison with the 0*kl* reflections. Altogether 1719 non-zero reflections were observed representing 62% of the total number of possible reflections obtainable with Cu radiation.

The observed intensities were corrected for spot-shape and Lorentz-polarization factors using a programme by Dr. H. J. Milledge. The square roots of these values, on the appropriate scale, were used in the subsequent structure factor calculations. No absorption corrections were applied.

STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

The gross structure was solved by the application of the heavy atom method. Conventionally, using this method, the heavy atoms are first located from a Patterson map, the observed structure factors are phased and a Fourier map is calculated. Such a map will contain in addition to large peaks due to the heavy atoms smaller peaks some of which may correspond to the lighter atoms in the molecule. A number of

⁶ H. Ageta, K. Iwata and S. Natori, *Tetrahedron Letters* 1447 (1963).

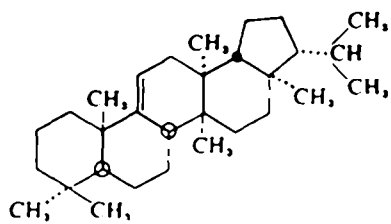
⁷ K. Nakanishi, Y. Y. Lin, H. Kakisawa, H. Y. Hsü and H. C. Hsin, *Tetrahedron Letters* 1451 (1963).

⁸ D. Arigoni, W. von Daehne, W. B. Godfredsen, A. Malcia and S. Vangedal, *Experientia* 20, 347 (1964).

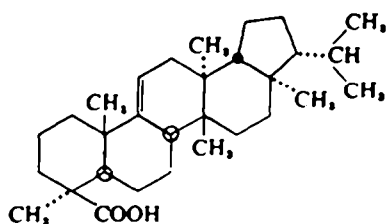
⁹ W. O. Godfredsen, W. von Daehne, S. Vangedal, A. Marquet, D. Arigoni and A. Melera, *Tetrahedron* 21, 3505 (1965).

¹⁰ A. Cooper, *Tetrahedron* 22, 1379 (1966).

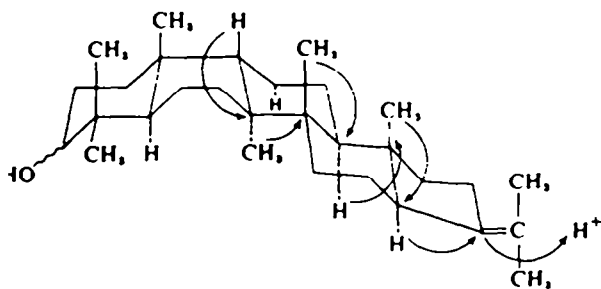
¹¹ P. Main and M. M. Woolfson, *Acta Cryst.* 16, 731 (1963).



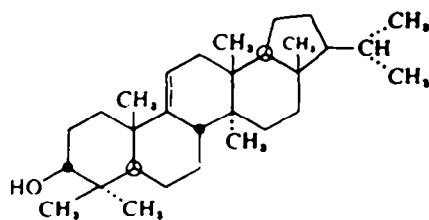
VII Ferene



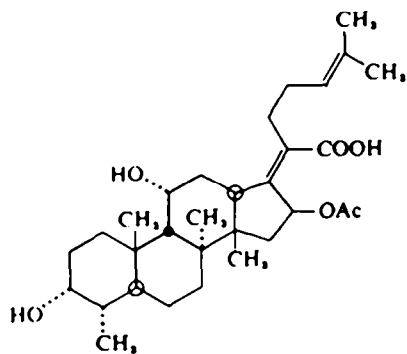
VIII Davallic acid



IX



X Arborinol



XI Fusidic acid

peaks are selected using various criteria, including the known or probable chemical features of the molecule, and a new set of phase angles is calculated. The progress of the analysis is indicated by a decrease in the value of the disagreement factor R , defined as $(\sum |F_o| - |F_c|) / \sum |F_o|$ which is about 59% for a random non-centrosymmetric arrangement of atoms.¹²

The above method was condensed and made more objective by the use, in the present investigation, of the series of calculations embodied in the computer programme "FATAL" which will be described more fully elsewhere, in connection with

TABLE 1. FLOWSHEET SHOWING LAYOUT OF "FATAL" CALCULATIONS

<i>Input "O"</i>	
Unit cell dimensions, symmetry, form factors Instructions for computing Fourier map Scale factor K for structure factors F_o List of scattering amplitudes with their indices (planes list)	Value of electron density $\rho(xyz)$ minimum Values of constants a and b for F_o output Co-ordinates of heavy atom
<i>Calculations</i>	<i>Output</i>
1. Structure factors F_o	→ F_o & F_c if $\Delta F > a$ or $\Delta F/F > b$ Values of K and R for batches of 120 reflexions and totals
2. F_o synthesis with phases of F_o from 1 above. Store	
3. Scanning of electron density peaks	→ Coordinates x, y, z and peak heights $\rho(xyz)$ if $\rho(xyz) > \rho_{min}(xyz)$
4. Distances (d) between peaks $\rho(xyz)$	→ d if $< 3 \text{ \AA}$
<i>Input "O" + I</i>	
Data as in input O, but with coordinates selected from output 3 with appropriate form factors and new K and B from output 1.	

their work on automatic heavy-atom analysis, by Hodgson, Rollett and Stonebridge. This approach involves minimal chemical assumptions other than the existence of discrete atoms. The flowchart of the calculations is shown in Table 1. Essentially the programme supplies the user at each stage of the calculation with a list of co-ordinates corresponding to peaks above a preset minimum value and the distances between neighbouring peaks. Atomic sites to be included in the next stage of the calculation are selected from this list using as chief criteria the peak heights and inter peak distances. If a true atomic site is chosen the electron density will probably increase—false peaks remain stationary or actually decrease in value. The scale factor K relating experimental and calculated values of structure factors is gradually improved and so is the disagreement factor R . The cyclic process is repeated till all atoms are located.

In the present investigation the position of the Br atoms was determined from a FATAL Patterson calculation obtained by placing a hypothetical atom at (000) for the phasing calculation. Three peak positions, lying in the Harker sections $\frac{1}{2}, y, z$; $x, \frac{1}{2}, z$; and $x, y, \frac{1}{2}$; were obtained giving as fractional bromine co-ordinates $x = 0.030$, $y = 0.25$, $z = 0.041$. However, structure factor calculations with these parameters gave $R = 58\%$ which dropped to 45% when the fractional y co-ordinate was changed

¹² A. J. C. Wilson, *Acta Cryst.* 3, 397 (1950).

to 0.21 on the assumption that the peaks indicating $y = 0.25$ were due to the superposition of pairs of vector peaks on either side of the symmetry planes.

When the peak positions from this calculation (F1) were plotted out the molecular skeleton was not evident, and an apparently unrelated set consisting of 10 of the highest peaks (those above $3e/A^3$) was selected for the next cycle F2, ($B = 3.5$, $K = 450$, $R = 41\%$). One of these was later shown to be a spurious atom (Peak S, Fig. 1).

At this stage the main outline of the molecular skeleton emerged as three six membered rings and a five membered ring with some substituents (Fig. 1). The peak

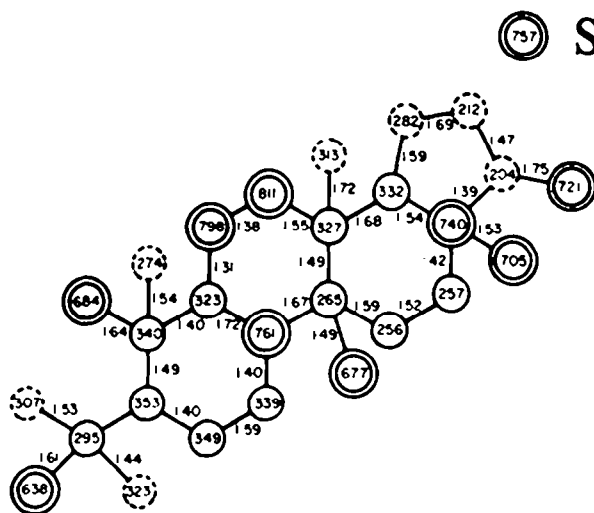


FIG. 1. The molecular skeleton of 2 α -bromoarborinone as seen from the plot of peak positions obtained from the Fourier map phased on 1 Br and 10 carbon atoms in FATAL cycle F2.

- Carbon atoms used as input for F2.
- Additional carbon atoms used as input for F3.
- Additional atoms used in input F4-F6.

Interpeak distances in Å units.

Peak height, inside circle in arbitrary units of electron/ Å^3 .

The peak representing bromine is omitted.

heights defining the five membered ring were comparatively low and to avoid any bias in the calculation, these were not included in the next cycle. However, they still reappeared in F3 ($B = 5.5$, $K = 450$, $R = 38\%$), and the highest peak position of this set was now added together with two peaks completing the last six membered ring and some further substituents. At F4 ($B = 5.5$, $K = 390$, $R = 31.6\%$) two positions were removed from the calculation one of which was a false atom (S, Fig. 1 which had decreased in height from 7.6 to 5.1 e/A^3 and was not close to any other site selected) while the other reappeared together with the two remaining atoms of the isopropyl group in F5. In F5 were also included the two atoms completing the five membered ring and one further atom attached to ring A. This was recognised to be an oxygen atom from the short distance to the nearest peak and the planarity of the surrounding group. With all atoms of the molecule accounted for the reliability factor was

26.4%, and there were no peaks above 2 e/A³ in height except those at sites used for the phases of Fcalc, where all peaks were above 4.5 e/A³.

It would be a hindrance to lay down exact rules for analyses of this type. In the present case no site was accepted unless the peak found was higher than 2.5 e/A³, until the last stage when two methyl carbon atoms were included because of peaks of 2.0 and 2.4 e/A³. This (flexible) rule, and rejection of sites unless they were at acceptable distances from their nearest and next nearest neighbours, sufficed to prevent the selection of any new false peaks from F2 onwards.

STRUCTURE REFINEMENT

After the 32 heavier atoms in the molecule had been located their positions were refined by a series of least squares diagonal matrix calculations, using a programme written by R. Diamand. The progress of these calculations is shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2. PROGRESS OF REFINEMENT OF 2 α -BROMOARBORINONE

Cycle	Scale factor	Reliability factor, R (%)	$\omega\Delta^2 \times 10^{-3}$	Max shift (Å)
Iso 1	350	27.2	1172782215	C(3)y 0.235
Iso 2	320	28.0	1082318101	C(24)y 0.214
Iso 3	355	25.9	1006399487	C(25)y 0.169
Iso 4	320	23.9	766084120	C(27)y 0.118
Iso 5	346	22.3	734069537	O y 0.092
Iso 6	340	22.1	688852110	C(3)y 0.063
Iso 7	339	21.8	677333193	O y 0.035
Aniso 1	317	17.1	240096564	C(23)y 0.067
Aniso 2	321	17.5	263332132	C(3)y 0.062
Aniso 3	295	13.8	111873680	C(1)x 0.053
Aniso 4	299	12.7	89860201	C(3)y 0.031
Aniso 5	293	12.4	83587421	O y 0.029

TABLE 3. FINAL ATOMIC CO-ORDINATES FOR 2 α -BROMOARBORINONE

	x	y	z		x	y	z
Br	0.02946	0.21444	0.04082	C(15)	0.39406	-0.38954	0.28967
O	0.22925	0.37538	0.06142	C(16)	0.37517	-0.48034	0.34420
C(1)	0.13969	0.03086	0.11744	C(17)	0.28794	-0.58727	0.34007
C(2)	0.15776	0.12055	0.06319	C(18)	0.19368	-0.48889	0.32125
C(3)	0.23944	0.24598	0.06996	C(19)	0.10075	-0.59951	0.32619
C(4)	0.34357	0.17207	0.08964	C(20)	0.13155	-0.69276	0.38031
C(5)	0.32601	0.06751	0.14053	C(21)	0.24224	-0.64703	0.39583
C(6)	0.42598	-0.01295	0.15869	C(22)	0.21164	-0.49720	0.21439
C(7)	0.40692	-0.08646	0.21855	C(23)	0.26012	-0.18649	0.09006
C(8)	0.32388	-0.21125	0.21547	C(24)	0.29345	-0.78384	0.42734
C(9)	0.22578	-0.14173	0.18986	C(25)	0.23158	-0.82101	0.47963
C(10)	0.23955	-0.06104	0.13356	C(26)	0.40664	-0.73972	0.44382
C(11)	0.13321	-0.17342	0.21009	C(27)	0.31554	-0.72289	0.30267
C(12)	0.11316	-0.28785	0.25719	C(28)	0.28605	-0.15766	0.31852
C(13)	0.20803	-0.39521	0.26697	C(29)	0.39732	0.09740	0.03709
C(14)	0.30291	-0.28615	0.27303	C(30)	0.41775	0.31278	0.10872

In all these calculations scattering factors, as listed in the International Tables for X-ray crystallography,¹³ were used. The weighting scheme was: $w = 1$ if $F_0 < F^*$, $w = F^*/F_0$ if $F_0 > F^*$. $F^* = 30$ (isotropic) $F^* = 20$ (anisotropic). A fudge-factor of 0.7 was introduced for cycles Aniso 2-5.

TABLE 4. COMPONENTS OF THERMAL VIBRATION COEFFICIENTS (b_{ij}); ANISOTROPIC REFINEMENT, CYCLE ANISO 5

	b_{11}	b_{22}	b_{33}	b_{12}	b_{23}	b_{13}
Br	0.00885	0.04661	0.00446	-0.00119	0.01554	0.00241
O	0.01341	0.01962	0.00285	-0.00089	0.00568	0.00227
C(1)	0.00731	0.03234	0.00175	0.00153	0.00770	0.00253
C(2)	0.00640	0.03510	0.00231	0.00130	0.01122	0.00451
C(3)	0.00861	0.01966	0.00148	-0.00030	0.00131	-0.00301
C(4)	0.01088	0.01652	0.00103	0.00105	0.00160	0.00104
C(5)	0.00779	0.01357	0.00105	0.00007	0.00003	-0.00044
C(6)	0.00651	0.02107	0.00271	0.00014	0.00585	0.00429
C(7)	0.00730	0.01191	0.00211	-0.00097	0.00218	-0.00302
C(8)	0.00405	0.00643	0.00181	-0.00027	-0.00198	-0.00188
C(9)	0.00583	0.01748	0.00161	0.00006	0.00025	-0.00115
C(10)	0.00582	0.01653	0.00191	0.00086	0.00199	0.00050
C(11)	0.00507	0.02253	0.00267	0.00077	0.00047	0.00301
C(12)	0.00562	0.02238	0.00294	-0.00194	0.00567	-0.00539
C(13)	0.00390	0.01911	0.00184	-0.00105	0.00029	-0.00075
C(14)	0.00655	0.01331	0.00112	0.00039	-0.00082	0.00202
C(15)	0.00484	0.01545	0.00256	0.00029	0.00200	0.00130
C(16)	0.00627	0.03193	0.00203	0.00075	0.00566	0.01043
C(17)	0.00691	0.00896	0.00150	-0.00035	-0.00028	-0.00154
C(18)	0.00560	0.01675	0.00160	0.00000	0.00176	-0.00110
C(19)	0.00784	0.02263	0.00261	-0.00103	0.00413	0.01048
C(20)	0.00543	0.02738	0.00255	0.00060	0.00270	0.00262
C(21)	0.00825	0.02271	0.00130	0.00021	0.00378	-0.00648
C(22)	0.00995	0.02346	0.00121	-0.00227	-0.00265	-0.01063
C(23)	0.01278	0.02164	0.00207	0.00141	-0.00181	-0.00085
C(24)	0.00828	0.02039	0.00180	0.00257	0.00157	-0.00165
C(25)	0.01994	0.03212	0.00262	-0.00433	0.00900	-0.00857
C(26)	0.01254	0.02869	0.00324	0.00308	0.00775	-0.00116
C(27)	0.01088	0.01301	0.00201	-0.00108	-0.00183	-0.00426
C(28)	0.01560	0.01336	0.00171	-0.00083	-0.00565	-0.00423
C(29)	0.01118	0.02717	0.00170	0.00201	0.00230	0.00775
C(30)	0.00985	0.02653	0.00246	-0.00148	-0.00056	-0.00980

The results of these calculations are recorded in the following Tables, 3: atomic positions; 4: thermal vibration parameters; 5: observed and calculated structure factors. The final reliability factor was 12.4% and the magnitudes of the shifts suggested by the last cycle were below the estimated standard deviations in atomic positions.

¹³ International Tables for X-ray Crystallography Vol. III. Kynoch Press, Birmingham (1962).

TABLE 5. (contd.)

13	153	171	249	14	147	129	779	6	83	73	974										
14	106	93	0	15	78	75	159	7	121	99	53								3,6,L		
15	128	119	249	16	141	124	825	10	114	104	974	0	78	82					0		
16	132	133	999	17	51	55	167	13	51	84	230	1	72	67	773				2		
17	102	117	749	18	29	58	64	15	41	53	181	2	29	14	28				3		
18	78	54	999	19	93	95	89	16	29	45	96	3	184	175	34				4		
19	78	56	749	20	29	29	904	17	29	56	226	4	78	71	887				5		
20	29	24	999	21	51	68	59	18	41	59	963	5	118	118	79				6		
21	41	32	749	22	29	72	804	19	29	52	952	6	78	63	199				7		
22	41	43	0									7	121	91	829				8		
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												13	29	29	877					14	
												14	102	107	131					15	
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TABLE 5. (contd.)

12	106	106	994
14	51	57	148
16	78	88	24
17	59	61	814
18	29	36	913
19	41	56	185
20	29	43	145
21	29	79	863

8,6,L

1	51	47	67
5	102	90	2
6	59	52	215
7	83	76	841
8	83	74	829
9	51	39	990
10	110	104	797
11	41	32	165
12	66	54	160
13	83	82	24
16	29	42	858
17	59	85	907
18	41	65	777
19	29	23	928

9,6,L

0	66	83	0
1	72	57	218
2	66	66	1
4	51	60	124
5	72	55	791
6	88	82	773
9	78	67	199
11	41	61	131
12	59	64	53
14	66	76	12
15	29	49	949
16	51	61	905
17	29	66	202
18	29	20	178

10,6,L

2	66	67	860
3	59	18	878
4	66	68	197
6	41	41	822
8	72	77	226
10	29	31	951
11	59	71	996
13	51	60	981
14	29	55	787
15	29	40	831
16	29	50	50

11,6,t

0	72	86	0
4	59	48	784

DISCUSSION

The stereochemical features of the molecule, as established in the present investigation, are shown in Fig. 2. The electron density distribution computed from the final least squares parameters is illustrated in Fig. 3.

Table 6 lists the interatomic distances obtained after the last FATAL cycle and at the end of the analysis. Average values from the final refinement for the carbon carbon bond are: sp^3-sp^3 1.514 Å (over 28 values) and sp^2-sp^3 1.502 Å (over 5 values). The C=O bond is comparatively short but similar distances of 1.15 Å and 1.20 Å were found in giberellic acid¹⁴ and in 4-bromoestrone¹⁵ respectively.

¹⁴ J. A. Hartsuch and W. N. Lipscomb, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **85**, 3414 (1963).

¹⁵ D. A. Norton, G. Kartha and C. Tang Lu, *Acta Cryst.* **16**, 89 (1963).

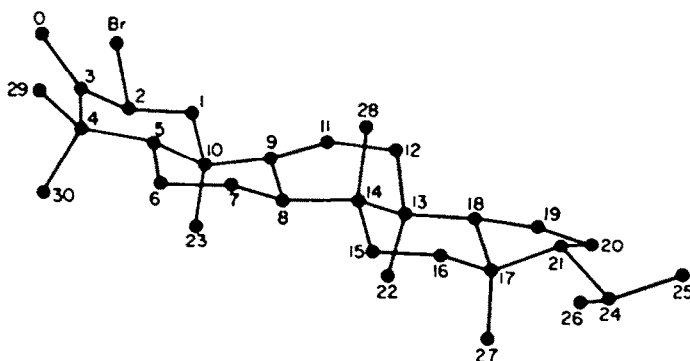


FIG. 2. The molecule of 2 α bromoarborinone. Numbering of atoms relates to Tables 3, 4, 6, 7.

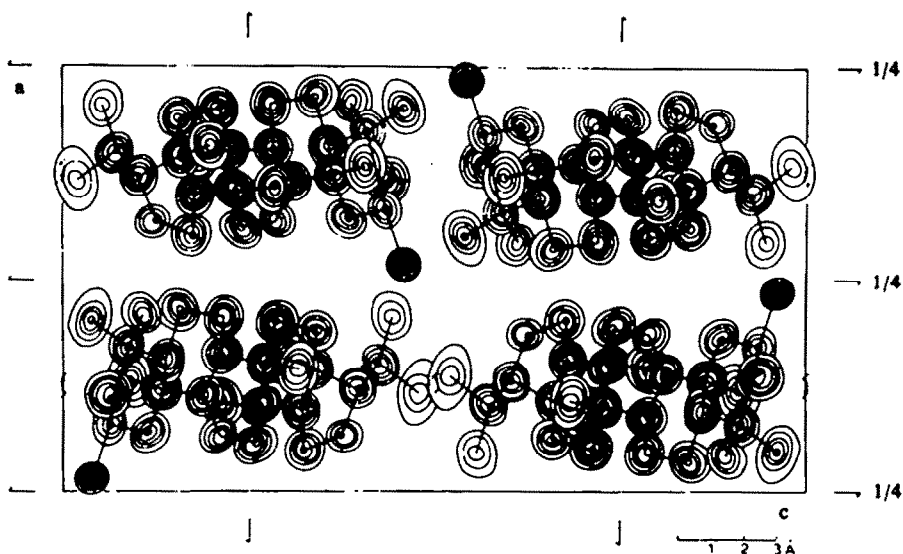


FIG. 3. Composite electron density map showing the four molecules of 2 α -bromoarborinone related by the three sets of screw axes in the unit cell. Contours at intervals of $1e/\text{\AA}^3$ except around the bromine atoms, which are indicated by solid centres. Lowest contour $1e/\text{\AA}^3$.

Rings A, B and D are in the chair form and C(22) and C(28) in the *trans* configuration. Atoms C(22), C(13), C(14), C(28) are coplanar.

The bromine atom is coplanar with C(2), C(3), C(4) and O to within 0.05 Å and is 2.96 Å distant from the oxygen atom. There is some distortion of bond angles around the oxygen atom in the direction of maximal O-Br separation. In ring C atoms 8, 9, 11 and 12 are coplanar to 0.02 Å.

Four of the five carbon atoms in ring E are coplanar to within 0.05 Å with C(17) displaced 0.74 Å from the mean plane. It is interesting to note that as a rule in molecules containing fused five- and six-membered ring systems four atoms of the five-membered ring are strictly coplanar while one of the two atoms common to the two

TABLE 6. INTERATOMIC DISTANCES FOR 2 α -BROMOARBORINONE

	Final FATAL Cycle R = 26.5%	Final L.S. Cycle R = 12.2%
Br -C(2)	2.02 Å	1.91 Å
C(1) -C(2)	1.31	1.46
C(1) -C(10)	1.62	1.55
C(2) -C(3)	1.45	1.52
C(3) -C(4)	1.47	1.55
C(4) -C(29)	1.56	1.51
C(4) -C(30)	1.57	1.61
C(4) -C(5)	1.49	1.49
C(5) -C(10)	1.55	1.57
C(5) -C(6)	1.47	1.51
C(6) -C(7)	1.53	1.51
C(7) -C(8)	1.43	1.52
C(8) -C(9)	1.57	1.51
C(8) -C(14)	1.57	1.47
C(9) -C(10)	1.45	1.46
C(9) -C(11)	1.35	1.30
C(10) -C(23)	1.39	1.49
C(11) -C(12)	1.46	1.47
C(12) -C(13)	1.54	1.55
C(13) -C(22)	1.54	1.51
C(13) -C(14)	1.55	1.55
C(13) -C(18)	1.55	1.48
C(14) -C(28)	1.49	1.53
C(14) -C(15)	1.53	1.52
C(15) -C(16)	1.51	1.48
C(16) -C(17)	1.44	1.46
C(17) -C(18)	1.57	1.54
C(17) -C(27)	1.48	1.49
C(17) -C(21)	1.40	1.48
C(18) -C(19)	1.57	1.54
C(19) -C(20)	1.54	1.51
C(20) -C(21)	1.52	1.52
C(21) -C(24)	1.58	1.53
C(24) -C(25)	1.48	1.45
C(24) -C(26)	1.53	1.55
C(3) -O	1.33	1.15

ring systems is out of plane by a distance close to that found in 2 α -bromoarborinone. Hartsuch and Lipscomb¹⁴ find such a displacement of 0.71 Å in gibberellic acid, Abrahamsson¹⁶ 0.71 Å in prostaglandin F₂, and the present authors 0.70 in tomatidine hydrobromide.¹⁷ We have also calculated from published co-ordinates the geometry of such systems in 7-bromocholesteryl chloride¹⁸ where the four atoms are coplanar to 0.10 Å and the fifth displaced by 0.7 Å; while in lanosteryl iodoacetate¹⁹ the displacement is 0.5 Å and the remaining atoms are coplanar to 0.03 Å.

¹⁴ S. Abrahamsson, *Acta Cryst.* **16**, 409 (1963).

¹⁷ O. Kennard, L. Riva di Sanseverino and J. S. Rollett, to be submitted to *J. Chem. Soc.*

¹⁸ H. Burki and W. Nowacki, *Z. Kristallog.* **108**, 206 (1956).

¹⁹ J. Friedrichson and A. McL. Mathieson, *J. Chem. Soc.* 2159 (1953).

TABLE 7. 2 α -BROMOARBORINONE BOND ANGLES

Br -C(2) -C(1)	108.05	C(12)-C(13)-C(14)	105.27
Br -C(2) -C(3)	108.35	C(12)-C(13)-C(18)	110.49
C(2) -C(1) -C(10)	109.63	C(12)-C(13)-C(22)	106.61
C(1) -C(2) -C(3)	114.00	C(14)-C(13)-C(18)	111.23
C(2) -C(3) -C(4)	109.09	C(14)-C(13)-C(22)	115.06
C(2) -C(3) -O	127.43	C(18)-C(13)-C(22)	108.04
C(4) -C(3) -O	123.46	C(8) -C(14)-C(13)	109.67
C(3) -C(4) -C(5)	110.23	C(8) -C(14)-C(15)	109.61
C(3) -C(4) -C(30)	105.87	C(8) -C(14)-C(28)	106.93
C(5) -C(4) -C(29)	113.72	C(13)-C(14)-C(15)	105.41
C(5) -C(4) -C(30)	110.94	C(13)-C(14)-C(28)	113.05
C(29)-C(4) -C(30)	105.25	C(15)-C(14)-C(28)	112.15
C(4) -C(5) -C(6)	111.06	C(14)-C(15)-C(16)	113.09
C(4) -C(5) -C(10)	117.76	C(15)-C(16)-C(17)	114.40
C(6) -C(5) -C(10)	108.23	C(16)-C(17)-C(18)	105.56
C(5) -C(6) -C(7)	107.08	C(16)-C(17)-C(21)	118.31
C(6) -C(7) -C(8)	111.98	C(16)-C(17)-C(27)	110.89
C(7) -C(8) -C(9)	108.52	C(18)-C(17)-C(21)	96.62
C(7) -C(8) -C(14)	113.75	C(18)-C(17)-C(27)	118.06
C(9) -C(8) -C(14)	110.99	C(21)-C(17)-C(27)	107.20
C(8) -C(9) -C(10)	114.93	C(13)-C(18)-C(17)	115.70
C(8) -C(9) -C(11)	122.98	C(13)-C(18)-C(19)	120.05
C(10)-C(9) -C(11)	121.05	C(17)-C(18)-C(19)	104.14
C(1) -C(10)-C(5)	104.35	C(18)-C(19)-C(20)	100.91
C(1) -C(10)-C(9)	110.45	C(19)-C(20)-C(21)	106.91
C(1) -C(10)-C(23)	111.69	C(17)-C(21)-C(20)	105.51
C(5) -C(10)-C(9)	109.64	C(17)-C(21)-C(24)	119.53
C(5) -C(10)-C(23)	116.89	C(20)-C(21)-C(24)	107.84
C(9) -C(10)-C(23)	103.87	C(21)-C(24)-C(25)	108.05
C(9) -C(11)-C(12)	123.52	C(21)-C(24)-C(26)	108.77
C(11)-C(12)-C(13)	111.70	C(25)-C(24)-C(26)	112.02

The consistency of the bond distance values is reasonably satisfactory, particularly since the main aim of the analysis was to establish the gross chemical structure and the individual intensity readings on which the analysis was based were of moderate accuracy only. The convergence of the refinement is probably due to the comparatively high percentage of the reflections within the reciprocal sphere which were measured. There was little change in the bond distances (Table 6) and in atomic positions during the least squares refinement, except for atoms nearest to Br. The average co-ordinate changes were 0.031 Å in the *x*, 0.05 Å in the *y* and 0.033 Å in the *z* direction. The maximum movement was 0.147 Å in the *y* co-ordinate of C(3). Essentially the structure was solved with the FATAL group of calculations and the least squares computations were mainly concerned with refining the amplitudes of the thermal vibrations.

The list of bond angles is given in Table 7. The average tetrahedral angle over 29

measured values excluding those of ring E was 110.1° . The strain imposed on the D/E ring junction was evident from the bond angles, particularly around C(18).

The molecules in the crystal are held by van der Waal's attractions only. Distances less than 4 Å are given below.

C(26) ... C(29) 3.50 Å	Br ... C(25) 3.74 Å
C(3) ... C(23) 3.64 Å	Br ... C(29) 3.87 Å
C(2) ... C(23) 3.97 Å	Br ... C(16) 3.99 Å
C(29) ... C(23) 3.97 Å	O ... C(29) 3.35 Å
C(25) ... C(21) 3.99 Å	O ... C(23) 3.47 Å
	O ... C(2) 3.80 Å

Taking the van der Waal's radius of the methyl group as 2.0 Å and that of oxygen as 1.40 Å the shortest distances are that from one of the methyl groups attached to ring A (C29) to the neighbouring isopropyl methyl group C(26) and that from C(29) to a neighbouring oxygen atom.

CALCULATIONS

The following computers were used in the calculations described in this paper.

Data reduction	"Pegasus"	University College, London
"FATAL"	"Mercury"	Computing Laboratory, Oxford
Least squares	"Atlas"	Institute of Computer Science, London
	"Atlas"	Science Research Council, Harwell
Molecular geometry	"Titan"	Mathematical Laboratory, Cambridge
Fourier synthesis	"IBM 7090"	Imperial College, London

Our thanks are due to the Directors and Staff of the above Units for their help in providing computing facilities.

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