# The Crystal Structure of N,3-Dimethyl-4-bromo-2,6-dinitroaniline

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The crystal structure analysis of N,3-dimethyl-4-bromo-2,6-dinitroaniline shows that the N-methyl group is in contact with the 2-nitro group thus confirming earlier NMR and IR results.

In a recent paper, Lamm and Nordfält 1 have discussed the preferred conformation of N,3-dimethyl-2,4,6-trinitroaniline. Provided that the dihedral angle between the planes defined by the methylamino group and the benzene ring is less than 90°, which is certainly a very reasonable assumption, two different conformations for the molecule are defined by the orientation of the methylamino group. In one of these (I), the N-methyl group is in van der Waals-contact with the 2-nitro group, allowing an intramolecular hydrogen bond between the amine proton and the unhindered 6-nitro group. In the other (II), the methylamino group is in the reverse position, with the N-methyl group close to the 6-nitro group. In Ref. 1, three different pieces of evidence,

two based on NMR spectroscopy and one on IR spectroscopy, all favour (I) as the preferred conformation of the molecule.

It appeared desirable to confirm this assignment by an X-ray crystallographic study of the solid compound. In order to simplify the structural analysis, the 4-nitro group was replaced by bromine in the same position. This modification can hardly influence the relative stability of (I) vs. (II). Therefore, if the

structural analysis showed that in N,3-dimethyl-4-bromo-2,6-dinitroaniline, the N-methyl group is in van der Waals-contact with the 2-nitro group, this would strongly confirm the assignment made in Ref. 1.

## **EXPERIMENTAL**

3,6-Dibromo-2,4-dinitrotoluene was prepared according to Cohen and Dutt.<sup>2</sup> After recrystallization from ethanol, a 55 % yield was secured, m.p. 142°, (Kofler micro hot

stage), lit.2 142-143°.

N,3-Dimethyl-4-bromo-2,6-dinitroaniline. Of the preceding compound, 12 g (0.0353 mole) was dissolved in 100 ml hot ethanol. Methylamine, 15 ml of a 33 % solution in water (approx. 0.16 mole), was added and the solution was boiled under reflux for 15 min. Orange rods separated on cooling. These were collected and recrystallized twice from ethanol-benzene (4:1) yielding 4.9 g (48 %), m.p.  $137-138^{\circ}$  (Kofler micro hot stage). The 60 MHz NMR spectrum, recorded in nitrobenzene solution containing tetramethyl silane as standard, is in agreement with the structure of the compound; singlet at  $\delta = -2.14$  (3-methyl), doublet at  $\delta = -2.88$ , coupling constant 5.3 Hz (N-methyl). The position of the amine proton peak was located through spin decoupling 3 and has  $\delta = -8.3$ . The  $\delta$  values (ppm) are referred to tetramethylsilane. The aromatic proton peak was swamped by the solvent absorption.

The crystals are triclinic with the following unit cell dimensions determined from

precession photographs ( $CuK\alpha$ -radiation).

$$a=6.14\pm0.02$$
 Å,  $b=11.22\pm0.04$  Å,  $c=8.28\pm0.02$  Å  $\alpha=77.32^{\circ}\pm0.3^{\circ}, \beta=98.26^{\circ}\pm0.4^{\circ}, \gamma=109.66^{\circ}\pm0.3^{\circ}$ 

The calculated density for two molecules per unit cell is 1.87 g cm<sup>-3</sup> which agrees well with the value 1.83 g cm<sup>-3</sup> determined by flotation of the crystals in sulphuric acid. The space group was assumed to be  $P\bar{1}$  which was not contradicted during refinement.

Weissenberg photographs were taken for layers 0-3 about the a-axis and 0-3 about the b-axis. The size of the crystal used was  $0.35 \times 0.23 \times 0.17$  mm. The intensities were estimated visually and corrected for the Lorentz and polarization factors and for absorption.

#### STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

The bromine position was easily found from the sharpened three-dimensional Patterson series and the rest of the heavier atoms from successive electron density series. In the following block-diagonal least squares refinement 4 positional and anisotropic temperature parameters were varied. At an R-value of 11 % a difference series was calculated. Peaks showed up at the expected positions for the hydrogen atoms of the two methyl groups and the aromatic ring but it was not possible to say anything certain about the position of the amino hydrogen. The refinement was continued with the identified hydrogen atoms included in the structure factor calculation. They were given their expected coordinates and isotropic temperature factors corresponding to those of the parent atoms. No hydrogen parameters were refined. When no further improvement occurred in the refinement another difference series was calculated in order to try to locate the amine hydrogen. It seemed very likely from the calculated distances that there exists an intramolecular hydrogen bond between the amine nitrogen and one of the 6-nitro oxygens. A peak in the expected region was also present in the series and the amine proton was included in the structure factor calculation. The final R-value for the 926 observed inde-

Table 1.	Fractional	atomic	coordinates	with standard	deviations $\times$	105 (within	n brackets)
				atoms of the		•	,

	$\boldsymbol{x}$	$\sigma(x)$	$\boldsymbol{y}$	$\sigma(y)$	z	$\sigma(z)$
$\mathbf{Br}$	0.23829	(14)	0.37062	(5)	0.17131	(8)
C(1)	0.48629	(124)	0.81115	(40)	0.11804	(66)
C(2)	0.27832	(136)	0.72766	(40)	0.19970	(61)
$\mathbf{C(3)}$	0.06751	(131)	0.67151	(42)	0.12526	(73)
C(4)	0.05140	(140)	0.70221	(45)	0.95061	(67)
C(5)	0.22908	(136)	0.77928	(45)	0.86185	(65)
C(6)	0.44595	(124)	0.83315	(41)	0.94292	(58)
C(7)	0.24869	(189)	0.12938	(66)	0.63219	(78)
C(8)	0.13112	(157)	0.41827	(60)	0.77501	(89)
O(1)	0.20926	(118)	0.73272	(59)	0.46946	(66)
O(2)	0.40924	(127)	0.61237	(45)	0.43273	(56)
O(3)	0.18313	(107)	0.04417	(54)	0.10419	(54)
O(4)	0.42687	(108)	0.06255	(47)	0.31078	(45)
N(1)	0.31305	(117)	0.13595	(42)	0.80325	(56)
N(2)	0.30013	(116)	0.68784	(41)	0.38238	(56)
N(3)	0.37670	(106)	0.08629	(36)	0.16333	(57)

Table 2. Allowance was made for anisotropic vibration with

 $\frac{\exp{-2\pi^2(h^2a^{*2}\ U_{11}+k^2b^{*2}\ U_{22}+l^2c^{*2}\ U_{23}+2klb^*c^*\ U_{23}+2lhc^*a^*\ U_{31}+2hka^*b^*U_{12})}{\text{The $U_{\rm ij}$'s (Å^2)$ are given together with standard deviations ($\times$ 10$) within brackets.}}$ 

	$U_{11}$	${\pmb U}_{{f 22}}$	${U}_{f 33}$	${m U}_{{f 23}}$	$U_{13}$	$U_{\mathtt{12}}$
$\mathbf{Br}$	0.1278 (11)	0.0670 (4)	0.0710 ( 5)	-0.0224 (3)	-0.0097 (5)	0.0042 (4)
C(1)	0.1059 (62)	0.0363 (20)	0.0426 (29)	-0.0050 (18)	-0.0029 (30)	0.0062(23)
C(2)	0.1566 (76)	0.0357 (20)	0.0235 (23)	-0.0023 (16)		0.0112(26)
C(3)	0.1253 (66)		0.0554 (34)	-0.0049 (19)	' '	0.0069 (25)
C(4)	0.1338 (68)		0.0371(26)		. , ,	0.0102(27)
C(5)				-0.0066 (20)	-0.0083 (34)	0.0074(27)
C(6)	0.1181 (62)			-0.0061 (17)	0.0116 (28)	0.0126 (24)
C(7)			0.0389(34)		-0.0169 (42)	-0.0026 (40)
C(8)	0.1126 (77)		0.0676 (42)		0.0192 (39)	0.0013 (34)
O(1)			0.0492 (32)	-0.0431 (31)	0.0391 (32)	0.0246 (36)
O(2)				0.0183 (19)		
O(3)			0.0334 (22)	-0.0023 (21)	0.0151 (25)	-0.0288 (31)
O(4)			0.0238(21)	-0.0002 (18)		
N(1)			0.0337 (26)	-0.0134 (19)		
N(2)				0.0104 (19)		-0.0033 (24)
N(3)	0.1314 (59)	0.0377 (19)	0.0419(24)	-0.0025 (16)	-0.0018 (28)	-0.0039 (23)

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \it Table~3. Fractional~coordinates~and~isotropic~temperature~factors~for~the~hydrogen~atoms. \\ \begin{tabular}{ll} \it Table~3. Fractional~coordinates~and~isotropic~temperature~factors~for~the~hydrogen~atoms. \\ \begin{tabular}{ll} \it Table~3. \\ \$ 

	$oldsymbol{x}$	$oldsymbol{y}$	z	B (Å2)
$\mathbf{H}(11)$	0.8107	0.9139	0.1164	2.4
$\mathbf{H}(51)$	0.2091	0.7996	-0.2715	1.7
$\mathbf{H}(71)$	0.7531	0.7759	0.4396	2.9
$\mathbf{H}(72)$	0.6375	0.9193	0.4175	2.9
$\mathbf{H}(73)$	0.9288	0.9270	0.3730	2.9
H(81)	-0.1993	0.6393	0.3027	2.5
$\mathbf{H}(82)$	-0.0761	0.5012	0.3038	2.5
$\mathbf{H}(83)$	-0.2803	0.5506	0.1392	2.5

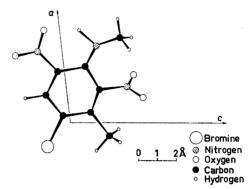


Fig. 1. Stereochemistry of N,3-dimethyl-4-bromo-2,6-dinitroaniline.

pendent reflections is 0.089. Six very strong reflections showed poor agreement and were not included in the final refinement. The R-value is then 0.082.

The calculations were performed on a Datasaab D21 computer with the integrated programme system written by Abrahamsson et al. The form factor values given in the International Tables for X-ray Crystallography, Vol. III, p. 202, were used. The least-squares programme minimizes  $\sum w|F_{\rm o}-F_{\rm c}|^2$  where the weights are <sup>6</sup>

$$w = \frac{1}{1 + \left\lceil \frac{|F_{\mathrm{o}}| - 2|F_{\mathrm{min}}|}{0.8|F_{\mathrm{min}}|} \right\rceil^2}$$

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The final molecular parameters are given in Tables 1—3, observed and calculated structure factors in Table 4. A spacial drawing of the molecule is shown in Fig. 1, distances and angles in Fig. 2 and in Table 5 with standard deviations. The atomic numbering is also indicated in Fig. 2.

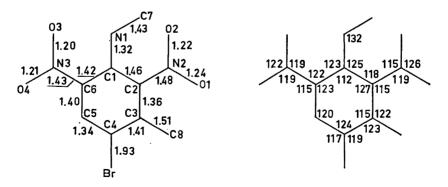


Fig. 2. Bond distances and angles. The atomic numbering used is indicated.

Relatively few substituted analines have been investigated by single crystal X-ray methods. Data exist for p-nitroaniline, N,N-dimethyl-p-nitroaniline, p-chloroaniline, the p-iodoaniline-s-trinitrobenzene complex, 10 1,3,5-triamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene, and N-(p-iodophenyl)-picramide. The latter of these compounds does not, however, provide any good basis for comparison since it has two substituted phenyl groups attached to the amine nitrogen.

Bond distances. It has recently been shown by microwave spectroscopy <sup>12</sup> that the nitrogen atom in aniline is pyramidal, as has been predicted by Coulson. <sup>13</sup> The C-N bond distance in aniline is calculated to be 1.431 Å. In p-nitroaniline, where the conjugation between the lone electron pair on the nitrogen and the aromatic  $\pi$  electron system is far stronger than in aniline, the C-N bond distance is 1.37 Å. A similar distance, 1.36 Å, is found in N,N-dimethyl-p-nitroaniline. The present structure analysis gives a C-N-distance of 1.32 Å, which indicates a still higher bond order. It is of course expected that an o-dinitroaniline should be more conjugated than, e.g., p-nitroaniline. Triaminotrinitrobenzene <sup>14</sup> has a similar C-N distance (1.31 Å).

Table 5. Bond distances and angles with standard deviations.

Bond	Length	σ	Angle	σ	δ
Br-C(4)	1.929 Å	0.007 Å	C(2)-C(1)-C(6)	112.0°	0.5°
C(1)-C(2)	1.460	0.009	$-\mathbf{N}(1)$	124.5	0.5
-C(6)	1.417	0.007	C(6) - C(1) - N(1)	123.4	0.5
$-\mathbf{N}(1)$	1.320	0.008	C(1) - C(2) - C(3)	127.0	0.5
C(2) - C(3)	1.359	0.009	$-\mathbf{N}(2)$	117.8	0.5
-N(2)	1.481	0.007	C(3)-C(2)-N(2)	114.9	0.5
C(3)-C(4)	1.408	0.008	C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	115.0	0.6
—C(8)	1.511	0.010	-C(8)	121.6	0.5
C(4) - C(5)	1.340	0.009	C(4)-C(3)-C(8)	123.4	0.6
C(5) - C(6)	1.404	0.009	Br-C(4)-C(3)	119.4	0.5
C(6) - N(3)	1.429	0.008	-C(5)	117.1	0.4
C(7) - N(1)	1.426	0.008	C(3)-C(4)-C(5)	123.5	0.6
O(1) - N(2)	1.245	0.010	C(4)-C(5)-C(6)	120.0	0.5
O(2) - N(2)	1.219	0.010	C(1)-C(6)-C(5)	122.5	0.5
O(3) - N(3)	1.197	0.008	-N(3)	122.1	0.5
O(4) - N(3)	1.209	0.006	C(5)-C(6)-N(3)	115.4	0.4
			C(1) - N(1) - C(7)	131.7	0.7
			C(2)-N(2)-O(1)	118.8	0.6
			$-\mathrm{O}(2)$	115.0	0.6
			O(1) - N(2) - O(2)	126.2	0.5
			C(6)-N(3)-O(3)	119.3	0.5
			$-\mathrm{O}(4)$	118.9	0.5
			O(3) - N(3) - O(4)	121.9	0.5

The aromatic ring shows normal bond distances except between C4 and C5 and between C1 and C2. The short C4—C5 distance indicates that the orthoquinoid limiting structure must make a significant contribution to the electronic structure. In this structure C4—C5, C2—C3, C1—N1, and C6—N3 are double bonds. The distances of all these bonds agree well with such a picture.

Table 4. Observed and calculated structure factors ( $\times$  100).

h k 1	Fobs	r <sub>calc</sub>	h k 1	Fobs	r <sub>cale</sub>	h k	1 7	obs	Pcalo	h k 1	Fobs	Fcalc
27444444444444444444444444444444444444	1440680016947868469697977174697978788471841692677747747878778788897447879786973886929788915627780698847897978787787787888978848889897897897897897897897897897897897897	1477681555684110885745641108857668457444457555575557555755575557555755575		41150174428799000600000001442807444607461797615751055111118899760000000000000000000000000000000000	500 1000 4 4 5 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛๛	COCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCO	59 29 79 79 79 79 79 79 79 79 79 79 79 79 79	-21729 -21729 -15666 -15676 -15676 -15676 -15676 -15676 -15677 -15676 -15677 -15676 -15677 -1	৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽৽	5.99791915164815590704446545681548590704567904685411166797765687945766799999999999999999999999999999999	5000000000000000000000000000000000000

The aromatic carbon-carbon distance in triaminotrinitrobenzene <sup>14</sup> is 1.44 Å. The C1—C2 bond is still longer (1.46 Å). Strain in the molecule might be a contributing factor. The C7—O2 intramolecular contact is 2.94 Å with a twist of 73° of the 2-nitro group to the benzene ring. The strain is also evident from the large angle at N1 and the fact that C7 is displaced 0.24 Å and N2

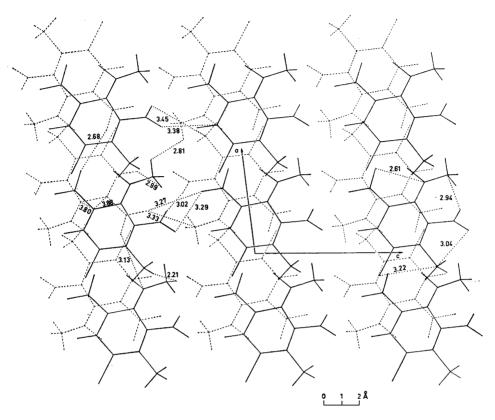


Fig. 3. Molecular packing of N,3-dimethyl-4-bromo-2,6-dinitroaniline. Dashed lines belong to symmetry related molecules. Some short intermolecular distances (to the left) and intramolecular distances (to the right) are indicated by dotted lines.

0.10 Å from the benzene plane. N1 on the other hand is close to the ring plane as are N3, Br, and C8 (Table 6).

Table 6. Least-squares plane through the benzene ring.

Equation of plane (referred to crystal axes)	Out of plane de for atoms de		Out of plane of for other	
-0.30687X + 0.93294Y + 0.18832Z - 0.63010 = 0		C(4) - 0.001	Br(1) -0.024, C(8) -0.055, O(2) -1.191, O(4) 0.117, N(2) -0.098,	C(7) 0.241 O(1) 0.899 O(3) -0.100 N(1) 0.026 N(3) 0.004

In accordance with the high contribution of the orthoquinoid resonance structure the 6-nitro group is almost coplanar with the benzene ring (6° twist), O3 is then close to the amino nitrogen (2.61 Å). As mentioned earlier this

represents an intramolecular hydrogen bond. O3 of a different molecule is also fairly close to N1 (3.13 Å) but the difference map and geometrical considerations seem to exclude this contact from being a hydrogen bond. Some of the shorter intra- and intermolecular contacts are given in Fig. 3 which also illustrates the molecular packing. All benzene rings pack with parallel planes. Infinite layers with rings run parallel to the ab plane. Interaction between these layers is provided by the ring substituents only. In the ring region there is a very short unbonded contact (2.68 Å) between O3 and its equivalent over a centre of symmetry. This cannot for chemical reasons be a hydrogen bond and as mentioned above there exists no intermolecular hydrogen bonds to link the molecules together. However, a reduction in the van der Waals radius is expected as the two oxygens approach each other in the N3— O3 bond direction.

Acknowledgements. Financial support from the Swedish Natural Science Research Council and the U. S. Public Health Service (GM-11653) is gratefully acknowledged.

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Received October 10, 1966.