

On the Crystal Structure of $K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$

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The crystal structure of $K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$ has been determined by single crystal Weissenberg methods. The unit cell dimensions are $a = 17.778 \pm 0.004$ Å, $b = 7.050 \pm 0.003$ Å, $c = 11.486 \pm 0.003$ Å, and $\beta = 118.61 \pm 0.01^\circ$, the space group being No. 9 *Cc*. The structure is composed of potassium ions and complex ions of formula $Mn(CN)_5NO^{3-}$ to which water molecules are attached by hydrogen bonds. The coordination polyhedron surrounding the central manganese atom is a severely distorted octahedron, the Mn-NO distance being only 1.66 Å as compared to the mean Mn-CN distance of 1.98 Å.

The mode of coordination of the nitrosyl group in transition metal complexes has been the object of considerable discussion in recent years. An extensive programme of research into the crystal structures of the transition metal nitrosyls has therefore been started at this Department. A series of pentacyanonitrosyl metal ions are among those compounds which have been studied, the structure of the first member, $K_3Cr(CN)_5NO$, having been determined by Vannerberg.¹ The structure of $K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$ has now also been determined.

PREPARATION AND ANALYSIS OF $K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$

Manchot and Schmid² first prepared the compound in poor yield in 1926 by passing nitric oxide into a solution containing manganese(II) ion and potassium cyanide. An improved yield was obtained in 1941 by Blanchard and Magnusson³ by the addition of KOH to the reaction mixture. In 1948 Hieber, Nast and Proeschel⁴ reported an alternative method of preparation, whereby $K_3Mn(CN)_6$ is treated with a basic solution of hydroxylamine. This method was modified by Cotton, Monchamp, Henry and Young⁵ in 1959 to give an 85 % yield of very pure substance. The same method has been used to prepare crystals for this structure investigation, the product being recrystallised in order to provide single crystals suitable for Weissenberg methods.

The compound was analysed for manganese and cyanide, manganese being titrated with EDTA at pH = 10 using Eriochrom-Black T as indicator, and cyanide determined gravimetrically as AgCN. (Found: Mn 14.90; CN 34.41. Calc.: Mn 14.91; CN 35.32).

$K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$ may be dehydrated by storing over P_2O_5 *in vacuo*. (Found: Mn 16.51; CN 38.05. Calc.: Mn 16.53; CN 39.14).

SPACE GROUP AND UNIT CELL

Reflections were found to be absent when

$$hkl : h + k = 2n + 1$$

$$h0l : l = 2n + 1$$

which is in accordance with the monoclinic space groups No. 15 $C2/c$ and No. 9 Cc . Preliminary calculations were based on the centrosymmetric space group, but it soon became obvious that a satisfactory structure determination could only be based on space group Cc .

Accurate cell dimensions were determined from Guinier powder photographs, using KCl as an internal standard ($CuK\alpha_1$ radiation, $\lambda = 1.54050 \text{ \AA}$, $a_{KCl} = 6.2919_4 \text{ \AA}$ at $20^\circ C$).⁶ 32 reflections were indexed with the Algol Programme Xalg Powder⁷ and the same programme was used to refine the cell constants. The cell dimensions thus obtained were

Table 1. Observed and calculated values of $\sin^2\theta$ and corresponding intensities for 32 reflections recorded by Guinier powder methods.

h	k	l	$10^5 \sin^2\theta$ obs	$10^5 \sin^2\theta$ calc	I_{obs}	I_{calc}
2	0	0	976	974	vw	47
1	1	0	1439	1437	m	103
1	1	-1	1661	1660	vvw	22
2	0	-2	1864	1864	w	34
1	1	1	2385	2382	vvw	20
1	1	-2	3053	3050	w	45
3	1	0	3398	3386	vvw	13
3	1	-2	3559	3553	s	144
4	0	0	3910	3897	w	67
1	1	2	4505	4494	m	118
2	0	2	4766	4753	vvw	7
3	1	1	5055	5053	vvw	8
0	2	-1	5375	5358	vw	24
2	2	0	5763	5749	vvw	19
5	1	-3	7123	7118	m	95
2	0	-4	7425	7422	w	46
1	1	3	7780	7772	m	108
4	2	-1	7817	7811	m	84
3	1	2	7888	7887	w	43
3	1	-4	8391	8389	vw	27
4	2	0	8677	8672	m	86
6	0	0	8776	8767	vw	15
1	1	-4	9330	9329	vvw	11
5	1	-4	9402	9397	vvw	16
6	0	-4	9443	9438	vw	31
5	1	1	9678	9672	vvw	13
7	1	-2	10420	10407	vw	28
4	2	1	10697	10700	vvw	13
7	1	-3	10805	10797	vvw	16
1	3	-2	12603	12599	m	74
2	0	4	13220	13199	w	14
5	1	2	13220	13228	w	25

$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= 17.778 \pm 0.004 \text{ \AA} \\
 b &= 7.050 \pm 0.003 \text{ \AA} \\
 c &= 11.486 \pm 0.003 \text{ \AA} \\
 \beta &= 118.61 \pm 0.01^\circ \\
 V &= 1263.8 \text{ \AA}^3
 \end{aligned}$$

Observed and calculated values of $\sin^2 \theta$ and the corresponding intensities of the reflections are listed in Table 1.

The density found experimentally was 1.9 g/cm³, indicating four formula units per unit cell. The calculated density is 1.93 g/cm³.

STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

The layers $h0l - h7l$ and $hk0 - hk5$ were registered according to the single crystal Weissenberg method, using multiple film techniques. The relative intensities of the reflections were estimated visually by comparison with a standard scale and corrected for Lorentz' and polarisation effects.

An approximate structure determination was first performed using the $hk0 - hk5$ data, which were recorded with $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation. In order to index the reflections obtained by rotation around the c axis it was convenient to know the monoclinic angle β . Another crystal was therefore rotated around the b axis and the layers $h0l - h4l$ were recorded with $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation. These photographs were, however, not of sufficiently high quality for accurate intensity measurements, but sufficed to determine β and to help in the approximate scaling together of the intensities obtained from rotation around the c axis.

A "three-dimensional" Patterson synthesis based on the data from the c axis yielded the following strongest peaks.

u	v	w	Peak height (arbitrary units)
0.00	0.03	0.50	1220
0.50	0.47	0.50	1220
0.50	0.03	0.23	940
0.50	0.03	0.77	940
0.00	0.47	0.23	940
0.00	0.47	0.77	940

The four manganese atoms were preliminarily assigned the position $C2/c:4(a)$ and four of the potassium atoms were assigned the position $C2/c:4(e)$ with $y = 0.5$.

A "three-dimensional" Fourier synthesis based on these positions revealed the positions of the other eight potassium atoms, and a structure factor calculation with assigned isotropic temperature factors of 3.5 for all atoms gave an R value of 0.41. A second Fourier synthesis based on the manganese and potassium positions revealed the positions of all the remaining atoms, the

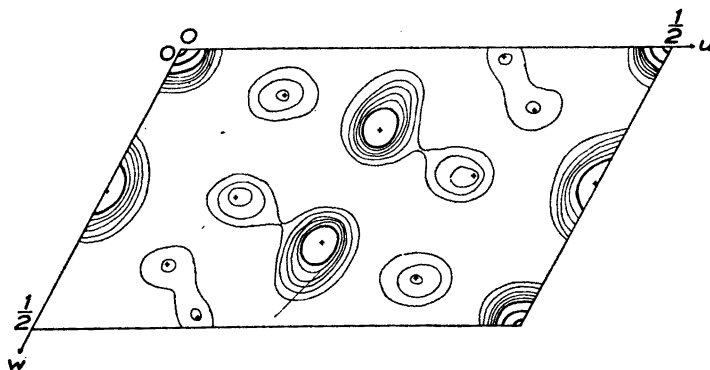


Fig. 1. Vector density projection of $K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$ along [010]. Each heavy line is equivalent to five fine lines.

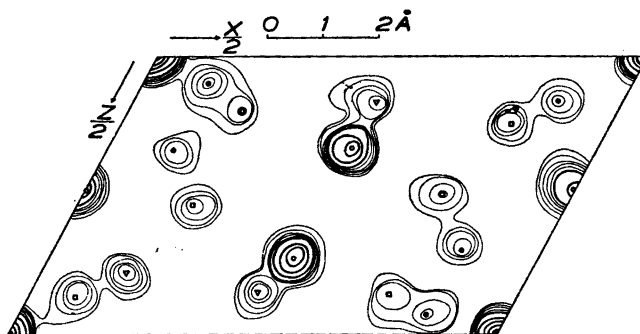


Fig. 2. Electron density projection of $K_3Mn(CN)_5NO \cdot 2H_2O$ along [010]. Heavy and fine lines represent contours of $10e/\text{\AA}^2$ and $2e/\text{\AA}^2$, respectively.

corresponding R value being 0.28. The nitrosyl groups could not be identified at this stage and were therefore treated as cyanide groups.

It was obvious that, if a statistical arrangement is excluded, the manganese atoms could not occupy centres of symmetry since each manganese atom was known to be surrounded by an asymmetric arrangement of five cyanide groups and one nitrosyl group. The space group Cc was therefore adopted.

After a few cycles of isotropic least squares refinement a calculation of bond distances and angles revealed five cyanide groups at approximately equal distances and, as expected,^{8,9} one group at a considerably shorter distance around each manganese atom. The atoms of this group were labelled nitrogen and oxygen.

At this stage a new set of data, obtained by rotating another crystal around the b axis, was available. The layers $h0l - h7l$ were registered with

MoK α radiation using Zr filters. No absorption corrections were applied owing to the low value of the linear absorption coefficient (20.63 cm⁻¹) and the small size of the crystal.

Table 2. Positional and thermal parameters of the atoms including their standard deviations.

Atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	$\sigma(x)$	$\sigma(y)$	$\sigma(z)$
Mn	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
K(1)	0.25080	0.13936	0.36246	0.00025	0.00052	0.00038
K(2)	0.24752	0.35949	0.66831	0.00024	0.00055	0.00037
K(3)	0.49315	0.03635	0.23752	0.00038	0.00056	0.00059
C(1)	0.41410	0.36819	0.34008	0.00084	0.00219	0.00133
C(2)	0.07583	0.11451	0.67357	0.00095	0.00215	0.00145
C(3)	0.43705	0.37243	0.58432	0.00079	0.00212	0.00124
C(4)	0.07117	0.23079	0.05564	0.00084	0.00214	0.00149
C(5)	0.41759	0.28523	0.95866	0.00087	0.00211	0.00149
N(1)	0.36452	0.28600	0.24960	0.00107	0.00248	0.00167
N(2)	0.12486	0.18800	0.77426	0.00086	0.00214	0.00136
N(3)	0.39417	0.29241	0.61906	0.00094	0.00233	0.00153
N(4)	0.11496	0.36628	0.09395	0.00126	0.00278	0.00226
N(5)	0.37176	0.16115	0.93830	0.00115	0.00247	0.00178
N(6)	0.05115	0.11502	0.43332	0.00082	0.00201	0.00129
O(1)	0.24275	0.01632	0.08504	0.00085	0.00179	0.00134
O(2)	0.23839	0.48348	0.93180	0.00088	0.00204	0.00149
O(3)	0.08814	0.21253	0.39060	0.00073	0.00186	0.00117
Vibrations						
Mn	0.01363	0.01922	0.02042	0.00268	0.00392	-0.00157
K(1)	0.02719	0.02786	0.02648	-0.00145	0.01383	0.00112
K(2)	0.02938	0.03196	0.02537	0.00136	0.01427	0.00478
K(3)	0.04237	0.02772	0.06815	-0.00248	0.01709	-0.00068
C(1)	0.01229	0.03400	0.02233	-0.00230	0.00779	-0.00261
C(2)	0.01743	0.02131	0.02499	-0.00366	0.00501	-0.00117
C(3)	0.01477	0.02842	0.01379	0.00447	0.00042	0.00194
C(4)	0.01343	0.02765	0.03492	0.00078	0.01379	-0.00033
C(5)	0.02026	0.02148	0.02911	0.00872	0.01082	0.00425
N(1)	0.04314	0.03299	0.04063	-0.00487	0.01659	-0.00865
N(2)	0.01938	0.03980	0.02402	-0.00139	0.00437	-0.00072
N(3)	0.02496	0.03651	0.03822	-0.00009	0.01183	-0.00084
N(4)	0.04211	0.03953	0.08105	-0.01165	0.03498	-0.00894
N(5)	0.04083	0.03516	0.04714	-0.00438	0.01578	-0.01161
N(6)	0.02142	0.03185	0.02165	0.00054	0.00811	0.00278
O(1)	0.02426	0.03225	0.04506	-0.00307	0.01618	-0.00404
O(2)	0.03429	0.03874	0.04094	0.00395	0.01854	0.00304
O(3)	0.02059	0.03972	0.03169	0.00788	0.01020	-0.00062

Since absorption errors were known to be much smaller for these data, the two sets of structure factors were not combined.

A structure factor calculation was based on these new data and the refined positions and isotropic temperature factors previously obtained. From the F_o/F_c fractions of the different layers of the *b* axis, the layer scale factors could be calculated, and the parameters obtained from the *c* axis data were refined isotropically with the new data. The *R* value converged to 0.093.

Table 3. Interatomic distances with their standard deviations.

Bond	$L \pm \sigma(\text{\AA})$	Bond	$L \pm \sigma(\text{\AA})$
Mn—C(1)	1.97 ± 0.01	K(2)—N(4)	2.85 ± 0.02
Mn—C(2)	1.97 ± 0.02	K(2)—N(5)	3.15 ± 0.02
Mn—C(3)	2.01 ± 0.01	K(2)—O(1)	2.80 ± 0.01
Mn—C(4)	1.97 ± 0.02	K(2)—O(2)	2.87 ± 0.02
Mn—C(5)	2.00 ± 0.01	K(2)—O(2)	3.23 ± 0.02
Mn—N(6)	1.66 ± 0.01	K(2)—O(3)	3.26 ± 0.01
N(1)—C(1)	1.15 ± 0.02	O(2)—N(2)	2.86 ± 0.02
N(2)—C(2)	1.18 ± 0.02	O(2)—O(3)	3.28 ± 0.02
N(3)—C(3)	1.16 ± 0.02	O(2)—N(3)	3.01 ± 0.02
N(4)—C(4)	1.18 ± 0.02	O(1)—N(3)	3.34 ± 0.02
N(5)—C(5)	1.14 ± 0.02	O(1)—O(3)	3.04 ± 0.02
N(6)—O(3)	1.21 ± 0.02	O(1)—N(1)	2.82 ± 0.02
K(1)—N(1)	3.06 ± 0.02	K(3)—C(1)	3.23 ± 0.02
K(1)—N(2)	3.03 ± 0.02	K(3)—C(2)	3.13 ± 0.02
K(1)—N(3)	3.03 ± 0.02	K(3)—C(3)	3.27 ± 0.02
K(1)—N(4)	3.28 ± 0.02	K(3)—C(4)	3.62 ± 0.01
K(1)—N(5)	2.84 ± 0.02	K(3)—C(5)	3.32 ± 0.02
K(1)—O(1)	2.85 ± 0.01	K(3)—N(1)	2.94 ± 0.02
K(1)—O(1)	3.24 ± 0.01	K(3)—N(2)	2.91 ± 0.02
K(1)—O(2)	2.82 ± 0.02	K(3)—N(3)	2.83 ± 0.02
K(1)—O(3)	3.10 ± 0.01	K(3)—N(4)	3.50 ± 0.02
K(2)—N(1)	3.10 ± 0.02	K(3)—N(5)	3.18 ± 0.02
K(2)—N(2)	3.20 ± 0.01	K(3)—N(6)	3.57 ± 0.02
K(2)—N(3)	2.96 ± 0.02	K(3)—O(3)	2.88 ± 0.01

Table 4. Angles with their standard deviations.

Angle	$\theta \pm \sigma^\circ$	Angle	$\theta \pm \sigma^\circ$
C(1)—Mn—C(2)	170.9 ± 0.6	Mn—C(1)—N(1)	177.6 ± 1.5
C(1)—Mn—C(3)	82.9 ± 0.5	Mn—C(2)—N(2)	175.4 ± 1.3
C(1)—Mn—C(4)	90.2 ± 0.6	Mn—C(3)—N(3)	172.5 ± 1.2
C(1)—Mn—C(5)	89.0 ± 0.6	Mn—C(4)—N(4)	177.4 ± 1.6
C(1)—Mn—N(6)	98.7 ± 0.6	Mn—C(5)—N(5)	178.3 ± 1.5
C(2)—Mn—C(3)	88.0 ± 0.6	Mn—N(6)—O(3)	174.3 ± 1.3
C(2)—Mn—C(4)	89.3 ± 0.6	O(1)—K(1)—O(2)	124.0 ± 0.4
C(2)—Mn—C(5)	89.9 ± 0.6	O(1)—K(1)—O(2)	93.8 ± 0.4
C(2)—Mn—N(6)	90.4 ± 0.6	O(1)—K(1)—O(1)	141.5 ± 0.2
C(3)—Mn—C(4)	83.9 ± 0.6	O(1)—K(2)—O(2)	124.7 ± 0.4
C(3)—Mn—C(5)	86.5 ± 0.6	O(1)—K(2)—O(2)	93.6 ± 0.4
C(3)—Mn—N(6)	177.2 ± 0.6	O(2)—K(2)—O(2)	141.2 ± 0.2
C(4)—Mn—C(5)	170.4 ± 0.6	N(1)—O(1)—N(3)	92.5 ± 0.6
C(4)—Mn—N(6)	98.3 ± 0.6	N(2)—O(2)—O(3)	96.1 ± 0.5
C(5)—Mn—N(6)	91.2 ± 0.6	N(1)—O(1)—O(3)	169.3 ± 0.7
		N(2)—O(2)—N(3)	164.0 ± 0.7

Three cycles of refinement with anisotropic thermal parameters assigned to all atoms gave an R value of 0.072.

The data were such that it was possible to distinguish the position of the nitrosyl group unequivocally. Thus the NO group and the diametrically opposite CN group were interchanged, whereupon the temperature coefficients for the atoms which were assumed to be N(6) and O(3) but were in reality C(3) and N(3) increased, whereas those for the atoms assumed to be C(3) and

Table 5. Observed and calculated structure factors for $K_2Mn(CN)_6 \cdot NO \cdot 2H_2O$.

Table with 20 columns: h, k, l, Fobs, Fcalc, h, k, l, Fobs, Fcalc, h, k, l, Fobs, Fcalc, h, k, l, Fobs, Fcalc. Each row represents a set of indices and corresponding structure factor values.

N(3), but in fact N(6) and O(3), decreased. At the same time a somewhat larger R value was obtained.

The final parameters were also used in a structure factor calculation with the c axis data, recorded with $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation, giving an R value as high as 0.15, owing to severe absorption errors which were not corrected for.

The atomic parameters are given in Table 2. The most interesting bond distances and angles are given in Tables 3 and 4.

The Lorentz' and polarisation correction, the Patterson synthesis, all structure factor calculations, Fourier syntheses and least squares refinement were performed on the SAAB D21 computer at the University Computing Center, Gothenburg, using programmes written by Abrahamsson *et al.*¹⁰⁻¹³ Bond distances and angles were calculated on the computer CD 3600 at the University Computing Center, Uppsala, using the programme DISTAN written by Zalkin and modified by Lundgren and Liminga.¹⁴

IR Spectra. The IR spectra of $\text{K}_3\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_5\text{NO}\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{K}_3\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_5\text{NO}$ were recorded and found to be in agreement with those reported by Cotton *et al.*⁵

Magnetic properties. The diamagnetism of the compound reported by Cotton *et al.*⁵ was confirmed.

DISCUSSION

The structure of $\text{K}_3\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_5\text{NO}\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, illustrated in Fig. 3, is composed of potassium ions and complex ions of formula $\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_5\text{NO}^{3-}$ to which water molecules are attached by hydrogen bonds.

The coordination polyhedron surrounding the central manganese atom is a distorted octahedron of point symmetry C_{4v} in which the Mn—CN bond distances vary between 1.97 and 2.01 Å and the Mn—NO bond distance is

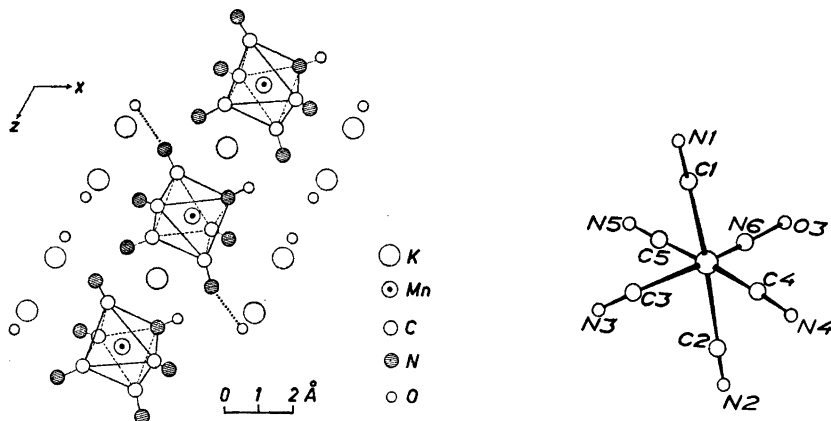


Fig. 3. Projection of the structure of $\text{K}_3\text{Mn}(\text{CN})_5\text{NO}\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ along $[010]$. The Mn atoms lie in the $[0\frac{1}{2}0]$ plane. Dotted lines indicate possible hydrogen bonds.

1.66 Å. The Mn—C—N and Mn—N—O bond angles are almost linear, but there are some significant deviations from 180°, the largest deviation being observed for the cyanide group opposite to the nitrosyl group. Three of the carbon atoms and the nitrogen atom of the nitrosyl group define a plane which also contains the manganese atom. The manganese atom does not, however, lie in the plane defined by the four carbon atoms C(1), C(4), C(2), and C(5), Fig. 4, but is displaced approximately 0.16 Å towards the nitrosyl group. This means that the angle between the Mn—N(6) and Mn—C bonds is greater than 90° for C(1) and C(4), *cf.* Table 4. A similar distortion has been reported for the nitroprusside ion.¹⁵ In this structure determination, however, the N—O bond distance was found to be only 1.13 Å, which is remarkably short compared with the N—O distance found in this structure 1.21 Å.

The configuration of the complex ion is in fairly good agreement with the model suggested by Ballhausen and Gray^{8,9} in which nearly all the π -bonding is axially directed. A very strong π -bond was thus expected to occur between manganese and the nitrosyl group or the diametrically opposite cyanide group. An Mn—N bond distance of 1.66 Å, which is much shorter than the sum (1.91 Å) of the covalent radii was also found, while the N—O bond distance is considerably longer (1.21 Å) than the bond distance in nitric oxide (1.14 Å). This is due to the occupation of antibonding π -orbitals of the NO group. The bond length 1.21 Å is slightly longer than the bond distance expected for a double bond (1.18 Å).

The fact that the manganese atom does not lie in the plane formed by the four carbon atoms C(1), C(4), C(2), and C(5) may be explained if the d_{xy} orbital is assumed to have an antibonding character rather than nonbonding as in the Ballhausen-Gray treatment. The Mn—C bond distances are 1.97–2.01 Å, which may be compared with the sum (1.94 Å) of the covalent radii. This somewhat larger distance can be due to the same repulsive effect.

The potassium atoms K(1) and K(2) are surrounded by four oxygen and five nitrogen atoms, in the form of a very distorted face centered trigonal prism, an idealized picture of which is shown in Fig. 5. K(3) appears to be distorted octahedrally coordinated by five CN-groups and one NO-group and thus has 12 nearest neighbours (see Table 3).

The short O(1)—N(1) and O(2)—N(2) distances, 2.82 and 2.86 Å, respectively, indicate that two of the four hydrogen atoms are located in these directions. These bind the water molecules to the complex group. The other

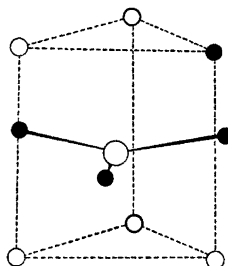


Fig. 5. The coordination polyhedron of K(1). Oxygen atoms are denoted by shaded rings.

distances from the water oxygen atoms to the NO and CN groups are such that hydrogen bonding may be suspected to occur also for the two remaining hydrogen atoms. Thus the distances O(1)—O(3) and O(2)—N(3) are 3.04 Å and 3.01 Å. A "three-dimensional" Fourier $|F_o - F_c|$ synthesis also shows indications of peaks attributable to hydrogen atoms in these directions. IR data also suggest that the nitrosyl group participates in hydrogen bonding.⁵

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