

## Crystal Structures of Synthetic Analgetics

### I. Dextropropoxyphene Hydrochloride

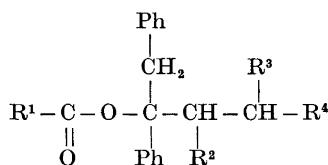
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The molecular and crystal structure of dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride has been determined by X-ray methods. The crystals are orthorhombic, space group  $P2_12_12_1$ ; with unit cell dimensions  $a = 11.997 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $b = 12.835 \text{ \AA}$ ;  $c = 13.830 \text{ \AA}$ . The phase problem was solved by the heavy atom method and the model refined to an  $R$ -value of 0.032 for 1643 observed reflections. The absolute configuration has been established; estimated standard deviations are  $0.003 - 0.004 \text{ \AA}$  in interatomic distances and  $0.2 - 0.3^\circ$  in angles.

The crystal packing is dominated by a very strong  $\text{N}^+ - \text{H} \cdots \text{Cl}^-$  hydrogen bond of  $3.03 \text{ \AA}$ . There is no evidence of any interaction between the protonated nitrogen atom and the ester group. The latter is planar and the two phenyl rings form an angle of  $86.6^\circ$ .

Propoxyphene, first synthesized by Pohland *et al.* in 1953,<sup>1</sup> is a synthetic analgetic with morphine-like action. It belongs to a group of ester-compounds with the general formula



where  $\text{R}^1 = \text{Et}$ ;  $\text{R}^2 = \text{Me}$ ;  $\text{R}^3 = \text{H}$ ;  $\text{R}^4 = \text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ . The morphine-like action is believed to be dependent on a particular molecular conformation, resulting from an interaction between the basic nitrogen atom and the ester group. This particular conformation for synthetic analgetics was first proposed by Casy from a study of methadone.<sup>2</sup> The present structure determination was carried out to obtain information about the structure, and correlate this to the activity of analgetics. This is the first of several compounds related to methadone to be examined by X-ray methods in this laboratory.

Fig. 1 shows the propoxyphene molecule with the numbering scheme of the atoms (Cl and H excluded).

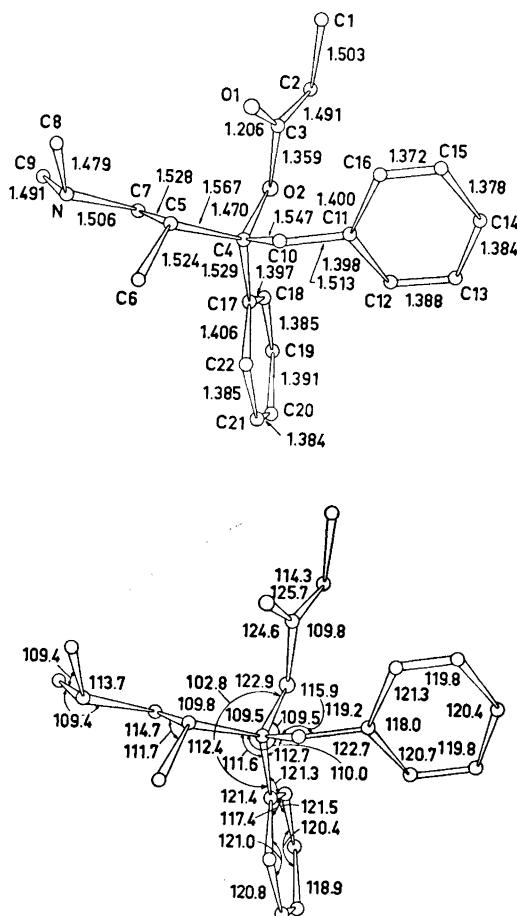


Fig. 1. Bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and angles ( $^\circ$ ) in dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Commercially available propoxyphene hydrochloride was recrystallized from a solution of acetone/ether. The compound crystallizes as colourless, transparent parallel-epipeds. Oscillation and Weissenberg photographs indicated orthorhombic symmetry, systematically absent reflections were  $h00, 0k0, 00l$  for odd indices, and the space group is  $P2_12_12_1$ . Unit cell dimensions were determined from measurements on a manual Picker four-circle diffractometer with  $\text{CuK}\alpha$ -radiation. The density was measured by flotation.

A crystal of dimensions  $0.4 \text{ mm} \times 0.4 \text{ mm} \times 0.3 \text{ mm}$  was used for the collection of three-dimensional intensity data on a Syntex P1 diffractometer using graphite crystal monochromated MoK $\alpha$ -radiation. The  $2\theta - \theta$  autocollection program was applied with variable scan rate and a cut-off at  $2\sigma_I$ . The scan range was from  $0.6^\circ$  below  $2\theta(\alpha_1)$  to  $0.7^\circ$  above  $2\theta(\alpha_2)$ , and the backgrounds were counted 0.7 times the intensity measuring time. The intensities of three standard reflections were measured periodically during the data collection. They showed an average decrease of 4 % and the intensities were corrected for this effect. Estimated standard deviations in the intensities were assigned as the square root of the total counts with a 2 % addition for instrumental instability.

A total of 1795 independent reflections were recorded within the limit of  $\sin \theta/\lambda < 0.76$ , 1647 having a net count larger than  $2\sigma_I$ .

The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects but not for absorption ( $\mu = 2.01 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  MoK $\alpha$ ) or secondary extinction.

All calculations were performed on a CDC 3300 computer using the programs described in Ref. 3. Atomic form factors were those of Hanson *et al.*<sup>4</sup> for C, O, N, and Cl, and of Stewart *et al.*<sup>5</sup> for H.

#### CRYSTAL DATA

Dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride,  $C_{22}H_{29}NO_2 \cdot HCl$ , orthorhombic.

$a = 11.997$  (1) Å,  $b = 12.835$  (1) Å,  $c = 13.830$  (1) Å.

$V = 2129.6 \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $M = 375.94$ ,  $Z = 4$ .

Melting point:  $166.5 - 167.5^\circ\text{C}$ .

$D_{\text{obs}} = 1.18 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $D_{\text{calc}} = 1.19 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .

Systematic absences:  $h00$  when  $h$  is odd,  $0k0$  when  $k$  is odd,  $00l$  when  $l$  is odd; space group  $P2_12_12_1$ .

#### STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

The coordinates of the chlorine ions were determined from a three-dimensional Patterson synthesis. A Fourier map revealed 18 of the 26 heavy atom positions. Two successive Fourier refinement served to establish a trial structure of all the non-hydrogen atoms. Successive cycles of full matrix least squares refinement, first with isotropic then with anisotropic thermal parameters yielded an  $R$ -value of 0.07. None of the hydrogen atoms could be localized in a difference Fourier map, and approximate positions were calculated from stereochemical considerations. A distance of 3.01 Å between Cl and N was supposed to correspond to a hydrogen bond from a protonated nitrogen atom. Giving the atoms individual isotropic thermal parameters, the block-diagonal least squares refinement converged at  $R = 0.034$ .

To establish the absolute configuration, the structure factors were calculated including anomalous dispersion effects for the chlorine ion. The two  $R$ -values calculated, with  $4f''$  positive and negative were 0.034 and 0.033, respectively. The diastereomer corresponding to the lower  $R$ -value could be assigned the configuration  $4S:5R$ , following the numbering in the present paper. This corresponds to the absolute configuration assigned to the (+)-isomer by Sullivan *et al.*<sup>6</sup> from chemical evidence. The  $R$ -ratio 0.034/0.033 may be accepted at a significance level better than 0.005 with Hamilton's test.<sup>7</sup>

The reflections 012, 023, 031, 102, and 113 were the strongest ones and had to be measured with reduced intensity of the primary beam. They showed

Table 1. Observed and calculated structure factors. The columns are  $h$ ,  $k$ ,  $l$ ,  $10|F_o|$  and  $10|F_c|$ .

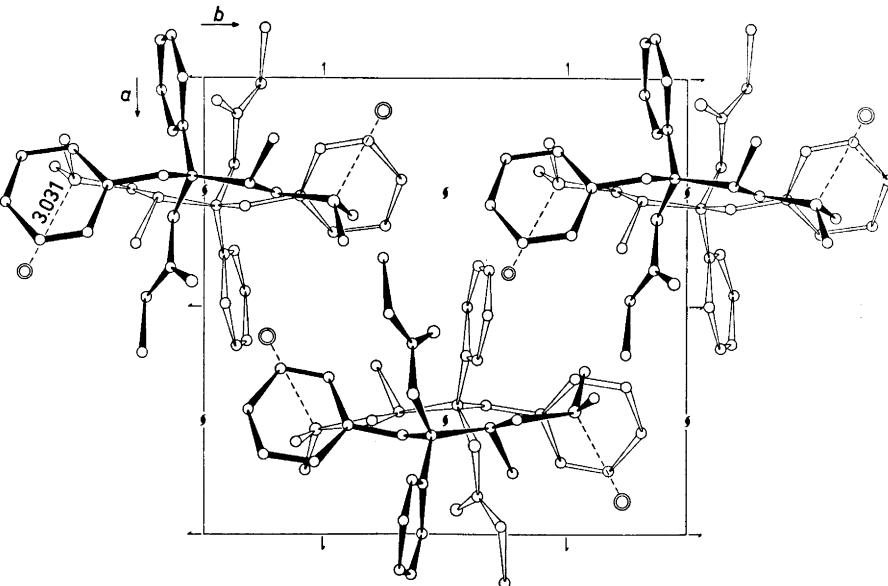
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Table 1. Continued.

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6	9	213	213	5	9	2	145	145	6	8	6	42	42	7	9	9	111	111	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75		
6	9	41	42	5	9	4	97	97	6	8	6	149	149	7	9	9	111	111	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75		
6	9	155	151	5	9	5	218	221	6	8	9	12	99	7	9	9	57	56	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75		
6	9	9	79	68	5	9	6	14	14	6	8	11	154	154	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	11	222	222	5	9	6	14	14	6	8	11	154	154	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	12	115	115	5	9	6	1	51	51	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75
6	9	13	99	99	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	14	94	94	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	15	94	94	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	16	94	94	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	17	94	94	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	18	94	94	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	19	107	107	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	20	211	211	5	9	6	116	116	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	21	129	129	5	9	6	117	126	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	22	276	276	5	9	6	117	126	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	23	411	411	5	9	6	117	126	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	24	248	248	5	9	6	117	126	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	25	249	249	5	9	6	117	126	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10	1	87	89	10	+	3	74	75	
6	9	26	311	311	5	9	6	117	126	6	8	9	111	111	7	9	9	12	121	8	10									

Table 1. Continued.

11	7	6	65	46	12	3	9	56	51	13	1	9	46	39	u	16	6	72	64	1	19	4	39	28	3	16	9	65	32	
11	8	5	61	57	12	4	1	51	64	13	2	1	85	88	u	16	14	63	53	2	3	18	57	47	3	17	+	82	46	
11	8	2	52	77	12	4	3	86	83	13	3	+	96	96	u	17	2	74	44	2	8	16	45	26	3	17	1	61	53	
11	4	79	72	12	4	6	45	54	13	4	+	53	49	u	17	4	37	28	2	8	17	56	47	3	17	3	57	51		
11	2	5	61	58	12	5	6	51	13	3	4	5	47	u	17	6	58	54	2	8	16	51	35	3	16	+	60	55		
11	1	2	75	73	12	5	3	59	57	13	4	8	65	59	u	18	1	95	39	2	9	17	45	45	3	16	3	68	3	
12	3	3	42	49	12	5	2	79	76	13	5	4	77	67	u	18	2	51	37	2	10	17	39	5	3	15	6	65	53	
12	4	4	47	51	12	5	6	81	74	13	6	5	66	62	u	18	3	51	75	2	10	17	45	41	4	15	5	65	52	
12	1	1	96	94	12	6	9	52	53	13	8	7	65	65	u	18	4	53	41	2	13	12	36	7	4	17	+	90	47	
12	1	4	8	78	12	6	9	48	47	14	3	5	86	79	u	19	1	38	46	2	13	19	45	24	4	17	5	58	36	
12	1	5	6	61	12	7	1	75	75	14	5	9	57	71	u	19	1	53	37	2	14	11	39	37	4	16	6	63	43	
12	1	6	66	59	12	7	3	74	67	14	1	6	74	67	u	2	18	45	29	2	15	8	72	71	4	16	1	72	55	
12	2	5	54	61	12	7	4	75	73	14	2	2	72	64	u	2	18	52	31	2	15	8	72	34	4	15	4	65	25	
12	2	2	12	98	12	8	4	72	77	14	2	4	61	51	u	3	19	62	51	2	17	+	47	49	4	14	14	65	39	
12	2	3	62	56	12	9	6	63	61	14	4	1	78	69	u	8	16	51	57	2	17	1	51	74	4	11	16	47	27	
12	2	4	11	77	12	1	1	86	79	0	1	24	51	45	u	9	17	56	56	2	17	2	53	56	4	12	12	44	35	
12	2	5	72	71	12	1	1	86	79	0	1	24	51	45	u	9	17	56	56	2	17	2	53	56	4	12	12	44	35	
12	3	3	13	113	13	3	2	71	75	0	1	19	111	87	u	15	14	54	21	2	16	3	57	51	4	13	11	61	37	
12	3	1	49	65	13	1	1	76	71	0	4	19	54	42	u	15	8	64	62	3	6	19	59	45	4	15	7	47	46	
12	3	2	32	9	13	1	2	91	84	0	5	19	38	5	u	17	+	72	62	3	1	19	41	27	4	15	9	48	39	
12	3	3	76	73	13	1	1	52	51	0	8	8	16	51	47	u	17	+	72	62	3	1	19	41	27	4	16	3	45	38
12	3	4	65	65	13	1	6	64	57	0	12	13	41	41	4	u	17	6	41	32	3	11	16	52	45	4	16	9	59	24
12	3	5	54	44	13	1	8	60	57	0	15	8	59	49	1	u	18	5	48	44	3	12	14	38	32					

Fig. 2. The crystal structure of dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride as seen along the *c*-axis.

great differences ( $F_o - F_c$ ) and were excluded from the further refinement.

Final block-diagonal least squares refinement, including anomalous dispersion effects gave an *R*-value of 0.032 ( $R_w = 0.032$ ). In the last cycle the average shift in the parameters were  $0.1\sigma$  for the 1643 observed reflections.

A total difference Fourier map showed electron densities in the range  $\pm 0.2 \text{ e}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ .

Observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table 1, and the atomic parameters in Tables 2 and 3. The anisotropic temperature factor is given by

Table 2. Fractional atomic coordinates and thermal parameters with standard deviations ( $10^5$ ) for non-hydrogen atoms.

Atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>B</i> <sub>11</sub>	<i>B</i> <sub>22</sub>	<i>B</i> <sub>33</sub>	<i>B</i> <sub>12</sub>	<i>B</i> <sub>13</sub>	<i>B</i> <sub>23</sub>
Cl	44808 7	-37286 7	6017 7	872 5	674 7	959 11	371 13	133 11	210 11
N	22449 18	-26439 15	7777 16	647 17	410 14	515 14	-56 27	-125 30	11 25
O1	4785 15	2717 16	18542 14	627 15	833 16	559 12	-292 28	-82 25	-311 24
O2	19313 13	6478 13	8602 12	492 13	452 10	443 10	19 21	15 21	-45 20
C1	-10477 27	13028 34	6017 26	671 26	1419 37	824 25	553 56	-28 46	-365 55
C2	1644 23	11802 24	3593 21	651 23	661 21	567 19	49 39	31 36	-139 36
C3	8386 21	6512 20	11201 18	535 20	425 16	484 16	-141 33	88 31	164 31
C4	28210 21	2555 19	14942 18	524 21	415 17	387 15	6 32	29 23	5 27
C5	26550 22	-9410 20	16661 19	682 22	411 17	402 15	-40 34	-113 33	-32 28
C6	36101 29	-14228 24	22381 23	1214 32	507 20	678 21	202 47	590 47	-23 37
C7	24782 22	-14938 20	6994 19	730 24	373 16	455 16	-116 33	-58 35	-17 29
C8	13405 30	-29022 26	14640 26	1135 32	604 22	930 26	-408 48	-771 54	-147 43
C9	19621 29	-30635 24	-1969 23	1280 35	566 21	629 21	-286 48	171 48	257 37
C10	27871 21	8435 20	24706 18	502 20	502 17	401 15	-42 33	-106 33	97 29
C11	25933 21	20030 21	24103 18	594 21	476 17	372 15	45 33	130 32	172 29
C12	34187 24	26995 23	21334 23	788 25	514 19	633 20	7 39	16 39	301 35
C13	32227 28	37612 24	21427 23	1175 33	526 20	642 21	-217 47	237 44	29 37
C14	22051 32	41337 24	24349 22	1508 38	547 21	644 21	740 51	761 53	261 38
C15	13794 27	34577 26	27151 24	890 28	767 25	795 24	705 47	402 46	466 43
C16	15710 23	24064 23	26963 22	631 23	700 22	623 20	299 39	57 38	403 38
C17	38751 21	4836 18	9145 19	543 20	358 16	476 16	76 31	-86 35	104 30
C18	38502 23	5533 23	-871 19	637 23	673 21	428 16	-200 39	-106 36	67 34
C19	48077 26	7323 26	-6169 21	917 29	830 25	489 18	-96 47	-352 39	-53 38
C20	58223 23	8554 25	-1573 22	623 24	804 24	687 21	-77 42	-473 39	12 40
C21	58658 23	7818 25	8357 23	506 21	856 24	711 20	226 40	-86 39	136 43
C22	49114 23	5937 23	13679 20	564 21	618 22	531 17	154 38	-96 34	60 35

Table 3. Fractional coordinates ( $10^4$ ) and isotropic thermal parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ ) with standard deviations for hydrogen atoms.

Atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>B</i>
H1C1	-1378 2:	1681 27	86 23	8.0 .9
H2C1	-1100 34	1728 30	1222 24	9.7 1.1
H3C1	-1379 33	683 33	847 27	11.0 1.2
H1C2	294 21	752 22	-254 18	5.7 .7
H2C2	506 20	1802 20	260 18	4.5 .6
HC5	1998 20	-992 20	2055 18	3.5 .6
H1C6	3723 29	-1044 28	2817 23	8.5 1.0
H2C6	3424 25	-2145 26	2410 21	6.5 .8
H3C6	4334 24	-1405 26	1820 21	7.1 .8
H1C7	3202 20	-1446 22	242 19	5.0 .7
H2C7	1875 19	-1195 19	332 17	3.6 .6
HN	2964 22	-2948 22	931 20	5.9 .7
H1C8	1209 24	-3618 24	1509 19	6.4 .7
H2C8	678 28	-2489 28	1227 23	8.5 1.0
H3C8	1604 23	-2726 24	2197 21	5.9 .8
H1C9	1819 18	-3804 19	-169 17	4.0 .6
H2C9	2624 22	-2996 23	-572 21	6.0 .7
H3C9	1604 31	-2722 30	-506 24	8.7 1.0
H1C10	3559 19	744 19	2835 16	3.6 .6
H2C10	2193 17	525 16	2860 15	2.1 .5
HC12	4151 21	2384 21	1962 18	4.8 .6
HC13	3828 22	4248 22	3935 19	5.6 .7
HC14	2065 24	4868 25	2444 21	7.1 .8
HC15	693 23	3767 24	2919 20	6.2 .7
HC16	939 23	1921 22	2887 19	5.1 .7
HC18	3148 18	547 18	-389 16	3.2 .5
HC19	4800 21	760 21	-1303 18	4.9 .6
HC20	6552 19	971 19	-524 17	4.4 .6
HC21	6583 20	863 20	1208 16	4.7 .6
HC22	4930 23	575 22	2059 18	4.5 .7

Table 4. Bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and bond angles ( $^\circ$ ) for the nonhydrogen atoms, with standard deviations.

	Bond length Uncorrected	Corrected	Angles
C1 - C2	1.503 (4)		C1 - C2 - C3 114.3 (.3)
C2 - C3	1.491 (4)		C2 - C3 - O1 125.7 (.2)
C3 - O1	1.206 (3)		C2 - C3 - O2 109.8 (.2)
C3 - O2	1.359 (3)		O1 - C3 - O2 124.6 (.2)
O2 - C4	1.470 (3)		C3 - O2 - C4 122.9 (.2)
C4 - C5	1.567 (4)		O2 - C4 - C5 109.5 (.2)
C5 - C6	1.524 (4)		O2 - C4 - C10 109.5 (.2)
C5 - C7	1.528 (4)		O2 - C4 - C17 102.8 (.2)
C7 - N	1.506 (3)		C4 - C5 - C6 112.4 (.2)
C8 - N	1.479 (4)		C4 - C5 - C7 109.8 (.2)
C9 - N	1.491 (4)		C6 - C5 - C7 111.7 (.2)
C4 - C10	1.547 (3)		C5 - C7 - N 114.7 (.2)
C10 - C11	1.509 (4)	1.513	C7 - N - C8 113.7 (.2)
C11 - C12	1.388 (4)	1.398	C7 - N - C9 109.4 (.2)
C12 - C13	1.383 (4)	1.388	C8 - N - C9 109.4 (.2)
C13 - C14	1.372 (5)	1.384	C5 - C4 - C10 110.0 (.2)
C14 - C15	1.373 (5)	1.378	C5 - C4 - C17 111.6 (.2)
C15 - C16	1.369 (4)	1.372	C4 - C10 - C11 115.9 (.2)
C16 - C11	1.389 (4)	1.400	C10 - C11 - C12 122.7 (.2)
C4 - C17	1.527 (4)	1.529	C11 - C12 - C13 120.7 (.3)
C17 - C18	1.389 (4)	1.397	C12 - C13 - C14 119.8 (.3)
C18 - C19	1.382 (4)	1.385	C13 - C14 - C15 120.4 (.3)
C19 - C20	1.382 (4)	1.391	C14 - C15 - C16 119.8 (.3)
C20 - C21	1.378 (4)	1.384	C15 - C16 - C11 121.3 (.3)
C21 - C22	1.382 (4)	1.385	C16 - C11 - C12 118.0 (.3)
C22 - C17	1.400 (4)	1.406	C16 - C11 - C10 119.2 (.2)
Hydrogen bond length			C5 - C4 - C17 111.6 (.2)
N - H...Cl <sup>-</sup>	3.031 (2)		C10 - C4 - C17 112.7 (.2)
			C4 - C17 - C18 121.3 (.2)
			C17 - C18 - C19 121.5 (.3)
			C18 - C19 - C20 120.4 (.3)
			C19 - C20 - C21 118.9 (.3)
			C20 - C21 - C22 120.8 (.3)
			C21 - C22 - C17 121.0 (.3)
			C22 - C17 - C18 117.4 (.2)
			C22 - C17 - C4 121.4 (.2)

Table 5. Bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) involving hydrogen atoms.

C1 - H1C1	0.96	C9 - H1C9	0.97
C1 - H2C1	1.01	C9 - H2C9	0.95
C1 - H3C1	0.95	C9 - H3C9	1.02
C2 - H1C2	1.02	C10 - H1C10	1.06
C2 - H2C2	0.94	C10 - H2C10	0.98
C5 - HC5	0.96	C12 - HC12	1.00
C6 - H1C6	0.95	C13 - HC13	1.00
C6 - H2C6	0.98	C14 - HC14	0.96
C6 - H3C6	1.04	C15 - HC15	0.96
C7 - H1C7	1.08	C16 - HC16	1.02
C7 - H2C7	0.96	C18 - HC18	0.94
N - HN	0.97	C19 - HC19	0.95
C8 - H1C8	0.93	C20 - HC20	1.02
C8 - H2C8	1.01	C21 - HC21	1.00
C8 - H3C8	1.09	C22 - HC22	0.96

Standard deviations are in the range 0.02–0.03  $\text{\AA}$ .

$$\exp - (B_{11}h^2 + B_{22}k^2 + B_{33}l^2 + B_{12}hk + B_{13}hl + B_{23}kl)$$

The e.s.d. in bond lengths and angles were calculated to be  $0.003 - 0.004 \text{ \AA}$  and  $0.3^\circ$ , respectively.

### DISCUSSION

Interatomic distances and bond angles are given in Tables 4 and 5, and are shown in Fig. 1. The analysis of the thermal parameters showed that the two benzyl parts of propoxyphene could be regarded as rigid bodies, and the positional parameters of these atoms were corrected for librational effects. The corrected bond lengths are also listed in Table 4.

Fig. 2 illustrates the crystal structure which is dominated by a very strong hydrogen bond ( $3.03 \text{ \AA}$ ) between the protonated nitrogen atom and the chlorine ion; the distance between the hydrogen atom (HN) and the chlorine ion being  $2.08 \text{ \AA}$ .

There are no other particularly short intermolecular distances in the structure.

The distance C1–C2 ( $1.503 \text{ \AA}$ ) is found to be shorter than the normal,  $1.537 \text{ \AA}$ .<sup>8</sup> This is probably due to the considerable thermal motion of the methyl carbon atom.

The mean C–N bond length is  $1.492 \text{ \AA}$ , in agreement with the value reported by Marsh *et al.* ( $1.487 \text{ \AA}$ ).<sup>9</sup> The mean aromatic C–C distance is  $1.383 \text{ \AA}$  ( $1.389 \text{ \AA}$  corrected).

Owing to the two large aromatic groups at C4, the angle O2–C4–C17 is as small as  $102.8^\circ$ . To compensate the strain around C4, the angle C4–C10–C11 is  $115.9^\circ$ . Both values are significantly different from the normal tetrahedral angle.

The phenyl rings A and B are planar. C4 is co-planar with plane B, whereas C10 is  $0.09 \text{ \AA}$  out of plane A. This deviation from planarity may be caused by the repulsions around C4 mentioned above. The two planes A and B form an angle of  $86.6^\circ$ . The dihedral angles C12–C11–C10–C4 and C18–C17–C4–O2 are  $76.2^\circ$  and  $-28.3^\circ$ , respectively.

The ester group (C2,C3,O1,O2) is planar to within  $0.004 \text{ \AA}$ , the planes through C1,C2,C3 and C3,O2,C4 form angles of  $5.4^\circ$  and  $5.6^\circ$  with this plane, respectively, C1 and C4 being on the same side.

The butylamine part of the molecule is nearly fully extended, the torsional angles around the bonds C10–C4, C4–C5 and C5–C7 being  $-162.6^\circ$ ,  $169.8^\circ$  and  $-176.7^\circ$ . Owing to the strong hydrogen bond between the nitrogen atom and the chlorine ion there is no interaction between the  $\text{NH}^+(\text{CH}_3)_2$  and the ester groups. The bond N–H is pointing away from the ester group, and the suggested morphine-like conformation is not found in this hydrochloride of dextropropoxyphene. In the present structure the distance H1C7–O1 is  $3.27 \text{ \AA}$ , and a rotation about the bonds C5–C7 and C7–N may thus bring the nitrogen atom in close contact with the carbonyl group. This rotation may take place in the free molecule or related compounds; the crystal structure of methadone now being under investigation in this laboratory may give an answer to this.

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