

Crystal Structures of Synthetic Analgetics

I. Dextropropoxyphene Hydrochloride

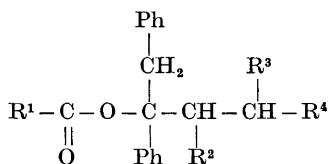
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The molecular and crystal structure of dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride has been determined by X-ray methods. The crystals are orthorhombic, space group $P2_12_12_1$; with unit cell dimensions $a = 11.997 \text{ \AA}$; $b = 12.835 \text{ \AA}$; $c = 13.830 \text{ \AA}$. 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 $N^+ - H \cdots Cl^-$ hydrogen bond of 3.03 \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° .

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



where $R^1 = \text{Et}$; $R^2 = \text{Me}$; $R^3 = \text{H}$; $R^4 = \text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$. 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.² 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).

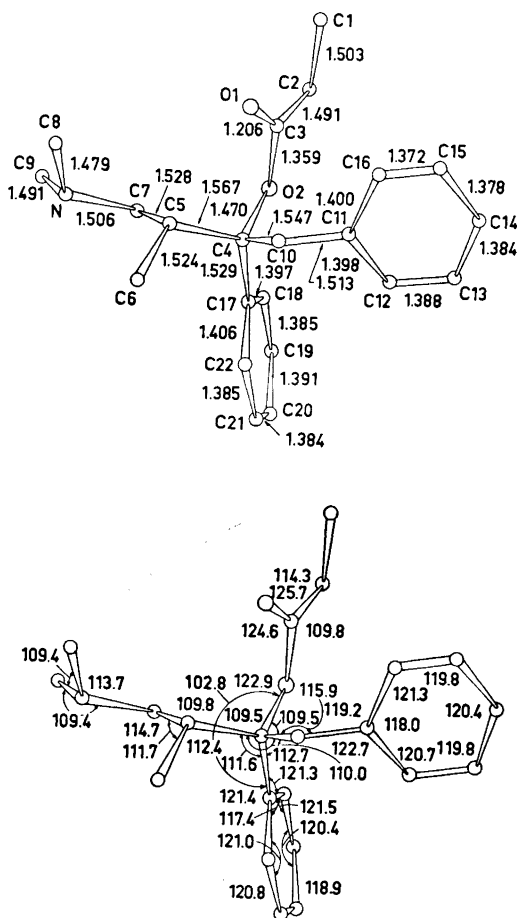


Fig. 1. Bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) in dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride.

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 mm \times 0.4 mm \times 0.3 mm was used for the collection of three-dimensional intensity data on a Syntex P1 diffractometer using graphite crystal monochromated MoK α -radiation. The $2\theta - \theta$ autocollection program was applied with variable scan rate and a cut-off at $2\sigma_1$. The scan range was from 0.6° below $2\theta(\alpha_1)$ to 0.7° 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 $2\sigma_1$.

The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects but not for absorption ($\mu = 2.01 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ MoK}\alpha$) 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.*⁴ for C, O, N, and C, and of Stewart *et al.*⁵ for H.

CRYSTAL DATA

Dextropropoxyphene hydrochloride, C₂₂H₂₉NO₂ HCl, orthorhombic.

$a = 11.997(1) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 12.835(1) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 13.830(1) \text{ \AA}$.

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

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 \AA 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 $\Delta f''$ 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.*⁶ 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.⁷

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

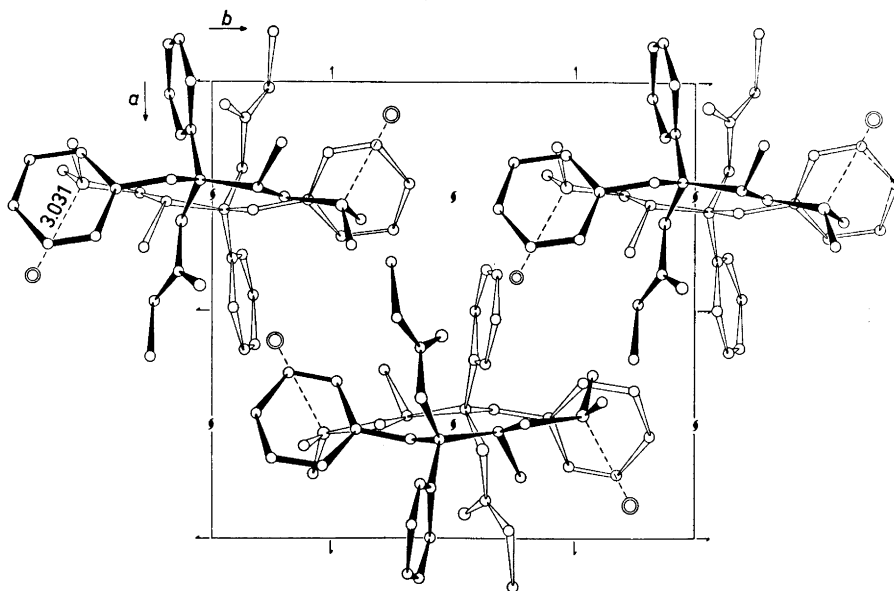
SYNTHETIC ANALGETICS I

Table 1. Continued.

Table with multiple columns of numerical data, likely representing chemical structures or experimental results. The table is organized in a grid-like format with rows and columns of numbers.

Table 1. Continued.

11 7 6 65 46	12 3 9 56 51	13 1 9 46 39	14 15 6 72 64	1 19 4 39 28	3 16 9 46 32
11 7 8 54 49	12 4 1 51 44	13 2 1 86 88	14 16 14 63 53	2 3 14 57 47	3 17 4 83 81
11 8 0 61 57	12 4 2 56 65	13 3 1 96 96	14 17 2 74 44	2 8 16 44 26	3 17 1 61 53
11 8 2 52 77	12 4 3 86 83	13 3 5 53 49	14 17 4 37 28	2 8 17 58 47	3 17 3 57 51
11 8 4 74 72	12 4 4 86 83	13 4 1 63 61	14 17 6 56 51	2 9 16 51 33	3 18 1 60 55
12 0 5 61 58	12 4 6 94 81	13 4 4 54 47	14 18 1 42 41	2 9 17 44 40	3 18 3 48 31
11 1 2 75 73	12 5 1 59 57	13 4 8 65 59	14 18 1 55 39	2 10 15 43 27	3 18 6 65 53
12 1 1 42 49	12 5 2 79 76	13 5 4 77 67	14 18 2 51 37	2 10 17 39 5	4 1 19 54 54
12 1 9 64 47	12 5 6 81 74	13 6 5 86 62	14 18 3 84 75	2 12 13 49 41	4 4 17 44 45
12 1 1 96 94	12 6 1 92 83	13 8 2 78 65	14 18 4 53 41	2 13 12 36 7	4 6 17 54 47
12 1 4 84 78	12 6 4 88 47	14 1 3 86 79	14 19 1 39 44	2 13 15 41 24	4 8 17 58 36
12 1 5 64 61	12 7 1 75 75	14 1 5 57 71	1 1 19 53 37	2 14 11 39 37	4 9 16 43 43
12 1 6 66 59	12 7 3 74 67	14 1 8 74 67	1 2 18 45 29	2 15 8 72 74	4 11 14 72 55
12 2 0 54 61	12 7 4 75 73	14 2 2 72 62	1 2 19 50 32	2 15 11 42 31	4 11 13 65 58
12 2 2 142 98	12 8 4 72 77	14 2 4 61 51	1 3 19 62 51	2 17 4 47 49	4 11 14 45 39
12 2 3 62 56	12 9 6 63 61	14 4 1 78 69	1 8 16 51 57	2 17 1 51 74	4 11 16 47 27
12 2 4 117 117	12 1 1 86 79	0 1 24 51 46	1 9 17 56 56	2 17 2 53 56	4 12 12 44 35
12 2 5 72 71	13 1 1 65 62	1 2 19 104 87	1 14 14 58 43	2 17 6 55 41	4 12 14 41 32
12 3 4 113 113	13 1 2 71 75	0 3 18 76 63	1 15 14 44 21	2 18 4 57 51	4 13 11 44 37
12 3 1 49 45	13 1 1 78 71	0 4 19 56 42	1 16 8 64 62	3 4 15 59 45	4 15 7 47 44
12 3 2 92 91	13 1 2 91 84	4 5 19 38 5	1 17 1 72 66	3 1 19 41 27	4 15 9 48 39
12 3 3 76 73	13 1 3 52 61	8 8 16 51 47	1 17 2 74 66	3 9 17 68 55	4 16 3 45 38
12 3 4 65 65	13 1 4 64 57	4 12 13 42 44	1 17 4 41 32	3 11 16 52 45	4 16 9 39 24
12 3 5 54 44	13 1 8 64 57	4 15 8 59 49	1 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 0.1σ 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 (10^6) for non-hydrogen atoms.

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

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

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

Table 4. Bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for the nonhydrogen atoms, with standard deviations.

Bond length		Corrected	Angles	
	Uncorrected			
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)
			C5 - C4 - C17	111.6 (.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)
Hydrogen bond length				
N - H...Cl ⁻	3.031 (2)			

Table 5. Bond lengths (Å) 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 Å.

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

The e.s.d. in bond lengths and angles were calculated to be 0.003–0.004 Å and 0.3°, 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 Å) between the protonated nitrogen atom and the chlorine ion; the distance between the hydrogen atom (HN) and the chlorine ion being 2.08 Å.

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

The distance C1–C2 (1.503 Å) is found to be shorter than the normal, 1.537 Å.⁸ This is probably due to the considerable thermal motion of the methyl carbon atom.

The mean C–N bond length is 1.492 Å, in agreement with the value reported by Marsh *et al.* (1.487 Å).⁹ The mean aromatic C–C distance is 1.383 Å (1.389 Å corrected).

Owing to the two large aromatic groups at C4, the angle O2–C4–C17 is as small as 102.8°. To compensate the strain around C4, the angle C4–C10–C11 is 115.9°. 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 Å 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°. The dihedral angles C12–C11–C10–C4 and C18–C17–C4–O2 are 76.2° and –28.3°, respectively.

The ester group (C2, C3, O1, O2) is planar to within 0.004 Å, the planes through C1, C2, C3 and C3, O2, C4 form angles of 5.4° and 5.6° 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°, 169.8° and –176.7°. Owing to the strong hydrogen bond between the nitrogen atom and the chlorine ion there is no interaction between the NH⁺(CH₃)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 Å, 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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Received June 7, 1973.