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A synchrotron redetermination of 2-(morpholinium-4-yl)ethanesulfonate monohydrate, including a disordered water molecule

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Key indicators

Single-crystal synchrotron study
 $T = 100\text{ K}$
 Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003\text{ \AA}$
 Disorder in main residue
 R factor = 0.045
 wR factor = 0.127
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.5

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

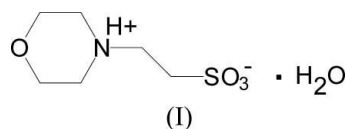
A synchrotron redetermination of 2-(morpholinium-4-yl)ethanesulfonate monohydrate, including a disordered water molecule

The structure of the title compound, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4\text{S}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ or $\text{OC}_4\text{H}_8\text{NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_3\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, was redetermined at 100 (1) K using synchrotron radiation. The water molecule, in contrast to the results of the prior room-temperature study [Christensen, Haxell, Lehmann & Nielsen (1993). *Acta Chem. Scand.* **47**, 753–756], was found to be disordered over two positions. The disordered model is more consistent with the observed hydrogen-bond network than the earlier suggested ordered structure.

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Comment

The 2-(*N*-morpholino)ethanesulfonic acid (MES) buffer is commonly used in crystallization of proteins, nucleic acids and their derivatives. Crystals of MES monohydrate, (I), were obtained fortuitously during our crystallization trials of modified nucleosides (Olejniczak *et al.*, 2007).



The crystal structure determination of MES monohydrate reported earlier (Christensen *et al.*, 1993) is of relatively poor quality (room temperature, H atoms not refined, $R > 7\%$). Most importantly, the solvent water molecule is described in that study as occupying a single position with relatively high displacement parameters. The results of our study at 100 K show that this water molecule can and, in fact, should be described as disordered over two positions. As the precise structural data might be important, for instance for modelling

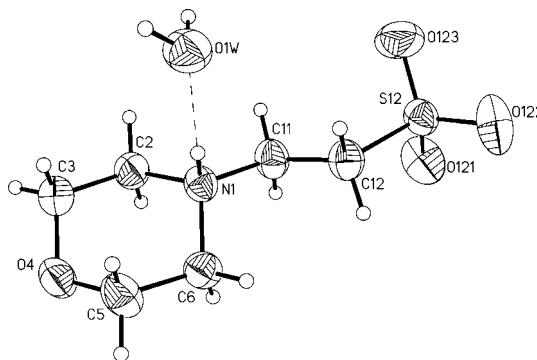


Figure 1
 The molecular structure of (I). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level; H atoms are depicted as spheres of arbitrary radius. Only the water molecule in the higher occupancy position is shown and the hydrogen bond is drawn as a dashed line.

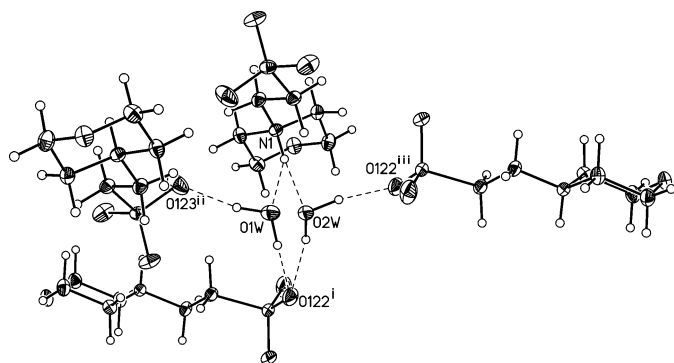


Figure 2

The two positions of the disordered water molecule and the hydrogen bonds (drawn as dashed lines). [Symmetry codes: (i) $2 - x, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (ii) $2 - x, -y, -z$; (iii) $x, -\frac{1}{2} - y, z + \frac{1}{2}$]

purposes, we have decided to complete the full crystal structure determination.

The MES molecule exists in a zwitterionic form (Fig. 1). This is confirmed by successful refinement of atom H1 bonded to the morpholine atom N1, as well as by the approximately equal S—O bonds in the SO₃ group (Table 1). The bond length and angle pattern is similar to that found in related compounds (*cf* for instance Christensen *et al.*, 1993; Deschamps *et al.*, 2002; Milić *et al.*, 2005); the morpholine ring is in a chair conformation [maximum values of the asymmetry parameters (Duax & Norton, 1975) are 4.7° for twofold axes and 5.9° for mirror planes]. The ethanesulfonate substituent occupies an equatorial position with respect to the morpholine ring [C3—C2—N1—C11 = −179.7 (2)° and C5—C6—N1—C11 = −177.6 (2)°] and has an extended zigzag-like conformation [N1—C11—C12—S12 = −171.0 (1)°].

The water molecule is disordered over two positions O1W and O2W with site occupancy factors of 0.581 (6) and 0.419 (6), respectively. Interestingly, the water molecule in each of the two positions is involved in two similar hydrogen bonds, *viz.* as an acceptor for the morpholine N1/H1 group and as a donor to atom O122ⁱ. In both positions it forms one more bond as a donor; however, for one of the positions atom O123ⁱⁱ serves as an acceptor, whereas for the second position the role of the hydrogen-bond acceptor is played by atom O122ⁱⁱⁱ (Fig. 2; see the caption to Fig. 2 for the equivalent positions corresponding to the symmetry codes). As a result, one of the water positions gives rise to centrosymmetric dimers, whereas the alternative position produces chains along the [001] direction. One would thus expect the crystal structure to feature chain fragments which are arbitrarily interrupted by centrosymmetric dimers. Using graph-set notation (Etter *et al.*, 1990; Bernstein *et al.*, 1995), the latter can be described as R₄⁴(16), while the former is (second order) C₂²(8). Additionally, relatively strong C—H...O hydrogen bonds strengthen the structure (*cf* Table 2).

Experimental

The crystals were grown by the method of sitting-drop vapour diffusion (Weber, 1997). The reservoir solution contained 0.1 M

potassium chloride, 0.1 M magnesium chloride, 0.05 M MES buffer pH 6.0 and 10% *w/v* polyethyleneglycol (PEG 400) as precipitating agent. The solution used in the reservoir was from tube #9 of the Matrix crystallization kit purchased from Hampton Research (<http://www.hamptonresearch.com>). The crystallization drop initially contained equal proportions of the above solution and a solution of 6-*N*-[5-[3-cobalt-bis(1,2-dicarbollide)-8-yl]-3-oxa-pentoxo]-2'-*O*-deoxy-adenosine at 10 mg ml^{−1}. Small crystals appeared within two weeks. At first we thought that the crystals were of the nucleoside, but analysis of the crystals revealed that they contained the MES monohydrate.

Crystal data

| | |
|---|--|
| C ₆ H ₁₃ NO ₄ S·H ₂ O | $V = 953.4 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$ |
| $M_r = 213.25$ | $Z = 4$ |
| Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$ | Synchrotron radiation |
| $a = 8.609 (1) \text{ \AA}$ | $\lambda = 0.8156 \text{ \AA}$ |
| $b = 9.959 (2) \text{ \AA}$ | $\mu = 0.33 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ |
| $c = 11.144 (2) \text{ \AA}$ | $T = 100 (1) \text{ K}$ |
| $\beta = 93.79 (3)^\circ$ | $0.4 \times 0.2 \times 0.2 \text{ mm}$ |

Data collection

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| MAR CCD 165mm diffractometer | 1893 independent reflections |
| Absorption correction: none | 1679 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ |
| 6095 measured reflections | $R_{\text{int}} = 0.039$ |

Refinement

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$ | H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement |
| $wR(F^2) = 0.127$ | |
| $S = 1.06$ | $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.31 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ |
| 1893 reflections | $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.35 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ |
| 180 parameters | |

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

| $D-H\cdots A$ | $D-H$ | $H\cdots A$ | $D\cdots A$ | $D-H\cdots A$ |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| N1—H1...O1W | 0.96 (3) | 1.80 (3) | 2.683 (3) | 151 (2) |
| N1—H1...O2W | 0.96 (3) | 1.83 (3) | 2.783 (4) | 175 (2) |
| O1W—H1W2...O122 ⁱ | 0.85 | 1.98 | 2.790 (3) | 159 |
| O2W—H2W1...O122 ⁱ | 0.85 | 1.97 | 2.727 (4) | 147 |
| O1W—H1W1...O123 ⁱⁱ | 0.85 | 1.98 | 2.775 (4) | 156 |
| C2—H2A...O123 ⁱⁱ | 0.97 (3) | 2.52 (3) | 3.366 (3) | 145 (2) |
| C11—H11B...O123 ⁱⁱ | 0.98 (3) | 2.52 (3) | 3.362 (3) | 145 (2) |
| O2W—H2W2...O122 ⁱⁱⁱ | 0.85 | 2.01 | 2.834 (5) | 162 |
| C12—H12A...O4 ^{iv} | 0.96 (3) | 2.52 (3) | 3.351 (3) | 145 (2) |
| C6—H6B...O121 ^v | 0.98 (2) | 2.38 (2) | 3.293 (3) | 154.3 (17) |

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x + 2, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (ii) $-x + 2, -y, -z$; (iii) $x, -y - \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$; (iv) $-x + 1, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (v) $-x + 1, -y, -z$.

The water molecule was found in two alternative positions. Site occupation factors were refined at 0.581 (6) and 0.419 (6). O atoms were refined anisotropically without any constraints; the positions of water H atoms were calculated on the basis of the potential hydrogen-bond scheme with an O—H distance of 0.85 Å, and refined as riding with U_{iso} calculated as 1.2 times U_{eq} for the O atoms. All other H atoms were refined isotropically [N—H = 0.96 (3) Å; C—H 0.94 (3)–1.06 (3) Å]. The refinement without splitting the water molecule was significantly worse; the *R* factor was 0.078 and the largest component of the displacement tensor of the O atom was as high as 0.5.

Data collection: MARCCD (MarResearch, 2002); cell refinement: DENZO/SCALEPACK (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: DENZO/SCALEPACK; program(s) used to solve structure:

organic papers

SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *Stereochemical Workstation Operation Manual* (Siemens, 1989); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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