

NEW DIFFRACTION DATA

X-ray powder diffraction data for methoxetamine hydrochloride,
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X-ray powder diffraction data, unit-cell parameters and space group for 2-(ethylamino)-2-(3-methoxyphenyl)cyclohexan-1-one hydrochloride, C₁₅H₂₂ClNO₂, are reported [$a = 8.574(2)$ Å, $b = 9.943(2)$ Å, $c = 8.774(1)$ Å, $\beta = 100.294(3)^\circ$, unit-cell volume $V = 736(1)$ Å³, $Z = 2$, and space-group $P2_1$]. All measured lines were indexed and are consistent with the $P2_1$ space group. No detectable impurities were observed. © 2017 International Centre for Diffraction Data.
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I. INTRODUCTION

Methoxetamine, MXE [2-(ethylamino)-2-(3-methoxyphenyl)cyclohexan-1-one] is a structural and pharmacological analog of ketamine (Morris and Wallach, 2014). For the first time it was synthesized in the UK by a synthetic chemist known as “M”. Structurally MXE belongs to the group of aryl-cyclohexylamines and has anesthetic and sedative effects (Zanda *et al.*, 2016). This designer drug emerged on the black market in 2010 and by 2015 was involved in 120 non-fatal and 22 fatal intoxications (EMCDDA, 2014; Zanda *et al.*, 2016). Though important pharmacological data have been published (e.g. metabolism, behavioral tests), there is still the lack of information about this compound (Menzies *et al.*, 2014; Zawilska, 2014; Hajkova *et al.*, 2016; Horsley *et al.*, 2016; Zanda *et al.*, 2016). MXE had been offered as the legal alternative for ketamine, but because of the dozens of severe intoxications it was banned in most EU states (Jurásek and Kuchař, 2016; Zanda *et al.*, 2016). Even though MXE (Figure 1) is banned by law, its analogs are available on the black market and may be still legal (e.g. methoxphenidine and deschloroketamine) (Hofer *et al.*, 2014; Frison *et al.*, 2016).

We have not found this compound in the CSD database or in the PDF4+ database (Allen, 2002; ICDD, 2015). Therefore, we have decided to characterize this compound by X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) technique. In our study, we present powder data for MXE hydrochloride (C₁₅H₂₂ClNO₂).

II. EXPERIMENTAL

A. Synthesis

The synthesis of MXE hydrochloride was carried out according to Hays *et al.* (2012) instructions and Stevens and Parke (1966) patent. 1-((Ethylimino)(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl)cyclopentan-1-ol (600 mg, 2.4 mmol) was dissolved in decalin (2 ml) and stirred 15 h at 190 °C in a microwave reactor. The reaction mixture was cooled, diluted with 15% hydrochloric acid, and extracted with dichloromethane. The aqueous layer was separated, and then it was made alkaline and extracted with diethyl ether. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and suction filtered. The filtrate was treated with a solution of hydrogen chloride in diethyl ether and the solvent was evaporated. Further purification was done by recrystallization from isopropyl alcohol. MXE hydrochloride was isolated as a yellowish solid and confirmed by NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance) analysis (130 mg, 19% yield) (Stevens and Parke, 1966; Hays *et al.*, 2012).

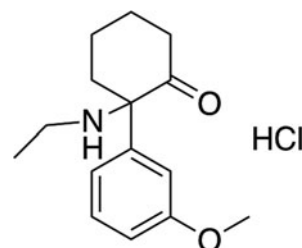


Figure 1. Structural formula of 2-(ethylamino)-2-(3-methoxyphenyl)cyclohexan-1-one hydrochloride.

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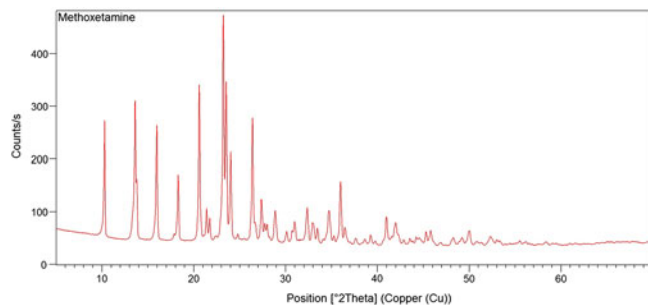


Figure 2. X-ray powder diffraction pattern of title compound using $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$).

The single-crystal experiment was done at the temperature of 190 K and the structure solution was obtained. The title compound is monoclinic with space group $P2_1$ and unit-cell parameters: $a = 8.5360(7) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 9.9155(9) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 8.7558(8) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 100.354(2)^\circ$, unit-cell volume $V = 729.0(7) \text{ \AA}^3$, and $Z = 2$. The difference in unit-cell parameters from the single-crystal data and the powder diffraction data is because of the temperature expansion.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The supplementary material for this article can be found at <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0885715617000860>.

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