SYNTHESIS, STEREOCHEMISTRY AND REACTIVITY OF SOME 2-METHYL-2-(3'-NITROPHENYL)-4-HYDROXYMETHYL-1,3-DIOXOLANES

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The efficient synthesis (SOLOMONS & GRAHAM, 1996) of new dioxolane compounds used in treatment of contaminated water with heavy metals like mercury, cadmium or lead was performed. Two stereoisomers were identified using ¹H and ¹³C NMR (MAGER et al., 1996; SILVERSTEIN, 1997) and X-ray diffraction techniques.

The ¹H-NMR spectra showed major differences in aliphatic area (McCLELLAND et al., 1993), differences which lead to the separation of two pure stereoisomers. Only the *anti* stereoisomer was used in the further steps of the synthesis due to the π stacking interactions (STEED & ATWOOD, 2000) observed, which influenced the final conformation of the structure.

The ORTEP plot of the *anti* stereoisomer crystals (Fig. 1) highlighted π stacking interactions that confirm in this way the NMR data (STENBERG & KILIK, 1974).

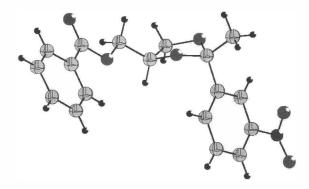


Fig. 1. ORTEP plot for anti 2-methyl-2-(3'-nitrophenyl)-4-hydroxymethyl-1,3-dioxolane

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