in which

$$A_m = A - \sum A/n - x' \sum x' A/\sum x'^2, \qquad (4)$$

$$aA = da/dC = -al^2/C^3f^2$$
. (5)

The value of a, corrected for absorption, is then given by the Nelson-Riley extrapolation with $C = C_{\text{opt.}}$.

For a typical photograph with ten diffraction lines, the factors A_m can be deduced in half an hour, and are then always available for the same crystal. A similar procedure applies to tetragonal crystals; for orthorhombic crystals, in which two axial ratios are unknown, the process is slightly more complex.

Hess (1951) pointed out that Cohen's method effectively weighted the a's deduced from various reflexions by a factor $\sin^2 \theta$. The method here given assigns all reflexions

equal weight. A group of eight photographs was computed by both methods, and also by a modification which weighted reflexions by a further factor of $\tan \theta$. All the methods agreed for both parameters to within 1 part in 50,000, but Cohen's method gave values of axial ratio consistently a little low.

I wish to thank the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for a Maintenance Grant.

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Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. Copy should be sent direct to the British Co-editor (R. C. Evans, Crystallographic Laboratory, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England).

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