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THE ROYAL INSTITUTION,
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10th January 1936.

Dear Professor Krishnao,

I was very glad to receive your letter of Dec. 12th about the discrepancy in your magnetic deductions. I have actually been aware of this discrepancy for some time, owing to the work of Mrs. Lonsdale, who has been making a careful study of the magnetic properties of organic crystals. She completed this study a short time ago, and we were just on the point of writing to you on the subject, when your letter arrived. I am very glad that you have found this discrepancy independently. I think, however, that Mrs. Lonsdale's treatment goes even further than the hints you mention in your letter. But she will write to you herself, and give you a full account of her work.

Naturally, it is very gratifying to me to learn that the revised deduction from the magnetic measurements confirm my X-ray results so closely. I feel that this point deserves to be emphasized.

I have been studying the structure of stilbene and azobenzene for some time, and in fact a preliminary paper on this subject is in the press, & should soon be published by the Royal Society. I found that these structures could only be explained by molecules possessing centres of symmetry, which is rather contrary

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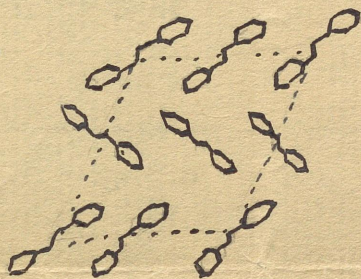
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to the 'twisted' & distorted molecules which you suggested from the magnetic results (Phil. Trans. vol. 231 h. 259). But I think the structure I have found will explain your magnetic results quite as well as the form of molecule which you suggested. I make the structure very like diamond, but with alternate layers of molecules twisting in opposite directions →



The upper rings of one set of molecules connected with the lower rings of the next set would I think give the distorted molecules which you suggested, so that the difference in our results is not so serious as would at first appear.

Thanking you for your letter, and with all good wishes for the
New Year. I remain,

Yours sincerely,

J. M. Robertson.