Geraniin, C_{37}H_{28}O_{27} \times 7H_2O, the main tannin from Gerani- 
num thumbergii Sieb. et Zucc. is one of the most popular folk medi-
cines and also an official antidiarrheic in Japan. Conventional X-
diffraction data at room temperature and room and low 
temperature (120K) synchrotron data (beam line X 1 1 at EMBL/
DESY Hamburg with a MARRESEARCH imaging plate) were 
measured. The structure could not be determined with any of the 
currently distributed direct methods programs but was easily solv-
ed with DIRDIF using several conformers of the 
hexahydroxydiphenoyl group as input fragment into a vector 
search. Thus a 20 atom fragment was sufficient to solve this 75 
(non H)atoms problem. A molecular structure was established 
where a cyclohexenetrione moiety attached to O-4 of a central 
glucose unit was in a hydrated six-membered hemiacetal-ring struc-
ture as expected from a solid state NMR study. Due to the high 
oligocyclic substitution the glucopyranosyl ring is in the unusual 
JC4 conformation. Refinement of the low temperature synchro-
tron data allowed the identification of almost all hydrogens even 
at the seven water molecules so that a rather complex system of 
about thirty different hydrogen bonds can be studied in some de-
tails.

Our investigations are devoted to the study of crystal structure 
of drug molecules - alkaloids quinoline type. The three cyclic 
quinasolone-4 and quinolines containing cycloalkane ring with 
different amount of methylene groups are sharply distinguished 
by the reactivity. In our mind, the properties of studied quinoline 
type alkaloids are determined mainly by fine 
solvent effects of conjugation in these compounds. In these compounds the 
comparison of bond lengths uncovers a shortening of the single 
bonds C2-N3 and elongation of the double bonds N1=C2.