

The Crystal Structures of KICl_2 and $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$

BY STUART SOLED AND GENE B. CARPENTER

Metcalf Chemical Laboratories, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island 02912, U.S.A.

(Received 29 March 1973; accepted 14 May 1973)

The crystal structures of potassium dichloroiodide and potassium dichloroiodide monohydrate have been determined by X-ray diffraction. Both structures were refined from three-dimensional diffractometer data by least-squares methods to give $R=5.7\%$ and $R=6.0\%$ respectively. KICl_2 crystallizes in space group $P2_1/c$ with $a=8.507(5)$, $b=10.907(5)$, $c=12.126(5)$ Å, and $\beta=107.82(4)^\circ$; $Z=8$. $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ crystallizes in space group $P2_1/m$ with $a=8.022(5)$, $b=9.611(5)$, $c=4.354(3)$ Å, and $\beta=97.03(4)^\circ$; $Z=2$. In the anhydrous compound the two independent dichloroiodide ions are nearly linear and symmetric with average I-Cl bond lengths of 2.55 Å. In the hydrate the dichloroiodide ion is linear and symmetric by virtue of lying across a center of symmetry and has an I-Cl bond length of 2.55 Å. Each water molecule is weakly hydrogen-bonded to two chlorine atoms, each 3.39 Å from the oxygen atom.

Introduction

Trihalide ions are sometimes linked in the crystal by weak multicenter bonds, as in CsI_2Br (Carpenter, 1966). It is of interest to examine the relative roles of multicenter bonding and hydrogen bonding in crystals where both are possible. The structures of only two hydrated polyhalide compounds have been reported, that of $\text{KICl}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Elema, de Boer, & Vos, 1963) and that of $\text{HICl}_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Bateman & Bateman, 1972). Both exhibit weak hydrogen bonding ($\text{O}-\text{H} \cdots \text{Cl}$) and possible indications of bonding between chlorine atoms. A more direct comparison of multicenter bonds and hydrogen bonds should be afforded by the structures of the hydrated and anhydrous versions of the same compound. For this reason we chose to investigate KICl_2 and $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$.

The preparation of 'potassium dichloroiodide' was first described by Wells, Wheeler & Penfield (1892). In the course of nuclear quadrupole resonance studies on the ICl_2^- ion (Cornwell & Yamasaki, 1957; Yamasaki & Cornwell, 1959), it became clear that both hydrated and anhydrous forms of KICl_2 exist. In both cases the data led the authors to propose for the ICl_2^- ion a bonding scheme based on p atomic orbitals. At about the same time Allison & Cheesman (1958) also showed, by physical and powder diffraction methods, that both KICl_2 and $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ exist.

Experimental

Sample preparation

Anhydrous KICl_2 was prepared by the method described by Wells (1901) for the preparation of CsICl_2 ; crystals formed upon cooling a hot aqueous solution of KNO_3 , I_2 , and HCl . The crystals were initially thought to be hydrated because they formed in aqueous solution and because Cremer & Duncan (1931) were able to obtain the anhydrous compound (only as a powder) by a strictly dry procedure. The true nature

of our crystals was revealed by the structure determination.

Crystals of $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ were prepared according to the original methods of Wells, Wheeler & Penfield (1892) by bubbling chlorine through an aqueous solution of KCl and I_2 .

Both compounds tended to lose iodine on standing, but decomposition could be prevented by coating them with a halocarbon grease (Kel-F).

Unit cell and space group

Crystallographic data for the two compounds are set out below.

	KICl_2	$\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
System	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
a (Å)	8.507 (5)	8.022 (5)
b	10.907 (5)	9.611 (5)
c	12.126 (5)	4.354 (3)
β ($^\circ$)	107.82 (4)	97.03 (4)
$a:b:c$ (X-ray)	0.7800:1:1.1118	0.8347:1:0.4530
$a:b:c$ (optical)	—	0.8319:1:0.4544
Absences	$h0l$, $l=2n+1$ $0k0$, $k=2n+1$	$0k0$, $k=2n+1$
Space group	$P2_1/c$	$P2_1/m$
Z	8	2
d_x (g cm^{-3})	2.91	2.53
d_m	2.87 (5)	2.44 (5)
$\mu(\text{cm}^{-1})$, Mo $K\alpha$	75.3	62.0
Habit	parallelepiped bounded by {100}, {010}, {001}, {110}	parallelepiped bounded by {001}, {110}

Unit-cell and space-group data were obtained from preliminary Weissenberg and precession photographs and from 15 2θ values carefully measured with a Picker four-circle diffractometer. The optical axial ratios for the hydrate were measured by Penfield (Wells, Wheeler & Penfield, 1892). Systematic absences determined the space group of KICl_2 uniquely. For the hydrate the

centrosymmetric alternative was chosen arbitrarily and was confirmed by the success of the refinement. Densities were measured by flotation in a mixture of CCl_4 and CHBr_3 , in which the crystals slowly dissolved.

Intensity data

Three-dimensional intensity data for each crystal were collected with a Picker automatic four-circle diffractometer in the θ - 2θ scan mode. Monochromation was obtained by means of a zirconium filter and pulse height analysis. Nonzero intensities were measured for 1249 independent reflections from the KICl_2 crystal, for 542 reflections from $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. A reflection was regarded as too weak to measure if the apparent intensity was less than twice its estimated standard deviation. Since the dimensions of the KICl_2 crystal were only about $0.15 \times 0.10 \times 0.11$ mm, no absorption correction was applied. Since the $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ crystal was larger, $0.26 \times 0.33 \times 0.33$ mm, the intensities were corrected for absorption by means of the *GONO* 9 program (Hamilton, 1956); transmission coefficients ranged from 0.21 to 0.31.

Structure-factor magnitudes were calculated in the usual way. The standard deviation in F^2 was estimated for both compounds by the expression

$$\sigma(F^2) = (1/L_p)[C + 8.25 + (t_c/2t_b)^2(B_1 + B_2 + 16.5) + (0.07C)^2 + [0.07(B_1 + B_2)]^2]^{1/2}$$

where L_p is the Lorentz-polarization factor, C is the total integrated count obtained in time t_c , and B_1 and B_2 are the two background counts each obtained in time t_b . The scaler on our instrument introduces a small systematic error by dropping the last digit of a count instead of rounding it off; to remove the systematic part of this error each recorded value was multiplied by ten and 4.5 was added. The terms 8.25 and 16.5 take account of the remaining random error from this source.

Structure determination and refinement

Both structures were determined from Patterson and difference maps, calculated with the *FORDAP* program (Zalkin, 1965), and were refined by least-squares methods with the program *BULS*, a local variation of the classic *ORFLS* program (Busing, Martin & Levy, 1962).

KICl_2

From a three-dimensional Patterson function the two independent iodine atoms were located. The coordinates and isotropic temperature factor parameters of the iodine atoms were refined by two cycles of least-squares adjustment. At this stage $R = 32\%$ and $R_w = 39\%$ based on all nonzero $|F|$ values. An electron-density difference map then showed clearly the chlorine and potassium atoms. Further cycles of refinement of all atoms converged to $R = 5.7\%$ and $R_w = 6.6\%$ with anisotropic temperature factors. A final difference map showed no peaks larger than one-tenth the height of the potassium atom on the earlier map.

Final positional and thermal parameters, with their estimated standard deviations in parentheses, are listed in Table 1. The observed and calculated structure factors are compared in Table 2.

$\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$

With two formula units in the assumed space group $P2_1/m$, the iodine, potassium, and oxygen atoms are required to be on either inversion centers or mirror planes. The Patterson map could be interpreted in terms of iodine atoms at centers, potassium atoms on mirror planes, and chlorine atoms in general positions; the oxygen atom was not yet apparent. Least-squares refinement of the coordinates and isotropic thermal parameters of the known atoms yielded $R = 11.3\%$, $R_w = 14.7\%$ for reflections greater than 2σ only. A sub-

Table 1. Atomic parameters for KICl_2 and $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$

Fractional atomic coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and temperature factor parameters ($\times 10^4$) in the expression

$$\exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)].$$

Standard deviations in the last place are given in parentheses.

	x	y	z	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
KICl_2									
I(1)	1345 (1)	- 180 (1)	3847 (1)	126.9 (20)	78.4 (12)	50.1 (8)	25.4 (13)	36.0 (10)	0.6 (8)
I(2)	-2843 (1)	940 (1)	845 (1)	100.6 (19)	61.2 (11)	67.1 (10)	- 9.7 (12)	20.3 (11)	7.3 (8)
Cl(1)	3625 (6)	1425 (5)	4306 (4)	126 (8)	108 (6)	98 (5)	- 80 (6)	36 (6)	1 (4)
Cl(2)	- 965 (6)	-1768 (5)	3363 (4)	169 (8)	89 (5)	64 (4)	9 (6)	35 (5)	0 (3)
Cl(3)	-3165 (6)	1905 (5)	2687 (4)	176 (9)	79 (5)	90 (5)	-24 (6)	41 (5)	-25 (4)
Cl(4)	-2402 (6)	-99 (5)	- 923 (4)	155 (8)	105 (5)	62 (4)	10 (6)	30 (5)	12 (4)
K(1)	2821 (5)	3021 (4)	4111 (4)	156 (8)	82 (4)	73 (4)	5 (5)	28 (4)	- 7 (3)
K(2)	-4569 (6)	- 700 (5)	3060 (4)	125 (7)	143 (6)	90 (4)	-10 (6)	15 (5)	29 (4)
$\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$									
I	0	0	0	136.8 (20)	75.1 (14)	331.8 (72)	- 4.2 (8)	22.5 (23)	0.7 (1)
Cl	3034 (4)	- 405 (4)	2358 (7)	145 (4)	102 (3)	603 (18)	13 (3)	-20 (7)	0 (1)
K	-4620 (5)	2500	2259 (8)	2337 (8)	122 (5)	378 (18)	0	27 (9)	0
O	3159 (16)	2500	-3129 (27)	214 (23)	1145 (15)	679 (76)	0	49 (33)	0

sequent difference map showed the oxygen atom on a mirror plane. Final several cycles of least-squares refinement, with anisotropic temperature parameters, converged to a structure with R=6.0% and R_w=7.4%. An attempt to locate the hydrogen atoms by means of

a difference map based on low-angle reflections, (sin θ)/λ ≤ 0.305, was unsuccessful.

The final parameters are listed in Table 1. The calculated and observed structure factors are presented in Table 3.

Table 2. Observed and calculated structure factor magnitudes for KCl₂, multiplied by 10

Table with 16 columns (K, L, FOBS, FCAL, K, L, FOBS, FCAL, K, L, FOBS, FCAL, K, L, FOBS, FCAL) and rows containing numerical data for structure factor magnitudes. Includes sub-headers like '*****=*****' and '*****=*****' at intervals.

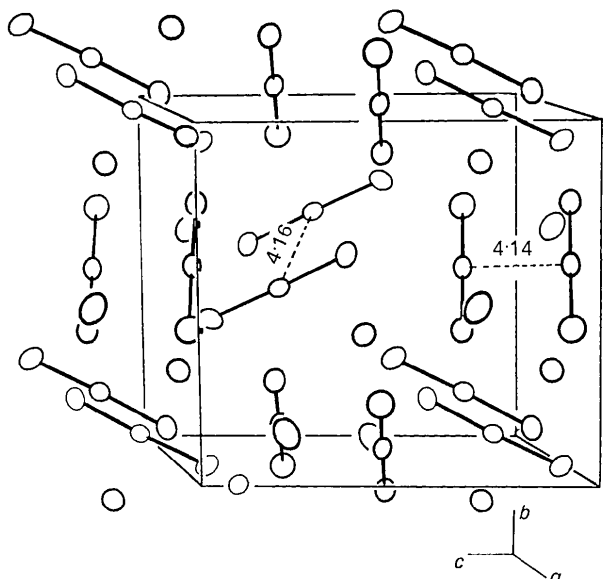


Fig. 1. Packing diagram of KCl_2 , showing pairs of parallel Cl_2^- ions.

Discussion

The crystal structures of KCl_2 and $KCl_2 \cdot H_2O$ are illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively; interatomic distances and angles are given in Tables 4, 5, and 6.

Table 5. Intermolecular approaches in KCl_2 (Å)

	Symmetry code		
	No	x	z
	symbol	y	z
i	$-x$	$-y$	$1-z$
ii	$1+x$	y	z
iii	$-x$	$-\frac{1}{2}+y$	$\frac{1}{2}-z$
iv	$-1-x$	$\frac{1}{2}+y$	$\frac{1}{2}-z$
v	$-1-x$	$-y$	$-z$
vi	x	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	$-\frac{1}{2}+z$

$I(1) \cdots I(1^i)$	4.139 (4)	$I(2) \cdots I(2^v)$	4.156 (4)
$I(1^i) \cdots Cl(2)$	4.092 (5)	$I(2^v) \cdots Cl(4)$	4.162 (5)
$Cl(1) \cdots K(1)$	3.281 (8)	$Cl(3) \cdots K(1)$	3.157 (7)
$Cl(1) \cdots K(2^i)$	3.145 (7)	$Cl(3) \cdots K(2)$	3.168 (9)
$Cl(1) \cdots K(2^{iii})$	3.381 (8)	$Cl(3) \cdots K(2^{iv})$	3.208 (9)
$Cl(2) \cdots K(2)$	3.195 (7)	$Cl(4) \cdots K(2^v)$	3.159 (7)
$Cl(2) \cdots K(1^i)$	3.240 (8)	$Cl(4) \cdots K(1^{vi})$	3.219 (8)
$Cl(2) \cdots K(1^{iii})$	3.234 (8)	$Cl(4) \cdots K(1^{iii})$	3.145 (7)

Table 3. Observed and calculated structure factor magnitudes for $KCl_2 \cdot H_2O$, multiplied by 10

h	k	FOBS	PCAL	h	k	FOBS	PCAL	h	k	FOBS	PCAL	h	k	FOBS	PCAL	h	k	FOBS	PCAL
		5.5	84	77	-5	1	82	92	4	301	295	-1	8	263	251	-5	1	122	120

Table 4. Bond lengths and angles

The superscripts are defined in Tables 5 and 6.

KCl_2		$KCl_2 \cdot H_2O$	
$I(1)-Cl(1)$	2.545 (5) Å	$I-Cl$	2.553 (4) Å
$I(1)-Cl(2)$	2.550 (6)	$O-H \cdots Cl$	3.386 (13)
$I(2)-Cl(1)$	2.558 (6)	$O-H \cdots Cl^{iii}$	3.386 (13)
$I(2)-Cl(4)$	2.546 (6)		
$Cl(1)-I(1)-Cl(2)$	179.17 (23) $^\circ$	$Cl-I-Cl^i$	180 $^\circ$
$Cl(4)-I(2)-Cl(3)$	177.05 (15)	$Cl \cdots O \cdots Cl^{iii}$	111.4 (4)

Table 6. *Intermolecular approaches in*
 $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Å)

Symmetry code				
No	symbol	x	y	z
i		-x	-y	-z
ii		1+x	y	z
iii		x	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	z
iv		x	1+y	z
v		x	y	1+z
vi		1-x	-y	-z
vii		1-x	-y	1-z

$\text{Cl} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{iii}}$	5.583 (3)	$\text{I} \cdots \text{O}$	3.877 (10)
$\text{Cl}^{\text{iii}} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{iv}}$	4.027 (11)	$\text{I} \cdots \text{O}^{\text{i}}$	3.877 (10)
$\text{Cl} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{vii}}$	3.751 (8)	$\text{I} \cdots \text{O}^{\text{v}}$	4.368 (13)
$\text{Cl} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{vi}}$	4.044 (9)	$\text{I} \cdots \text{I}^{\text{v}}$	4.354 (20)
$\text{Cl} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{v}}$	4.354 (20)	$\text{K}^{\text{ii}} \cdots \text{O}$	2.797 (15)
$\text{O}^{\text{v}}-\text{H} \cdots \text{Cl}$	3.386 (10)	$\text{K} \cdots \text{O}^{\text{v}}$	2.797 (15)
$\text{O}^{\text{v}}-\text{H} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{iii}}$	3.386 (10)	$\text{K} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{vi}}$	3.216 (8)
$\text{O}^{\text{v}} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{vii}}$	3.639 (11)	$\text{K} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{vii}}$	3.234 (7)
$\text{O}^{\text{v}} \cdots \text{Cl}^{\text{v}}$	3.710 (12)	$\text{K} \cdots \text{Cl}$	3.370 (6)

The dichloroiodide ion

In both compounds the ICl_2^- ion is exactly or very nearly linear and symmetric. In KICl_2 none of the four independent I-Cl distances is significantly different from their average, 2.550 Å. The independent Cl-I-Cl angles, 179.2 (2) and 177.1° (2), show statistically significant but minor deviations from linearity. In $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ the ion is exactly linear and symmetric, since it lies on a center of symmetry. The I-Cl distance is 2.553 (4) Å, not significantly different from the average value in KICl_2 . These I-Cl distances are similar to those found in other examples of the same ion: 2.55 Å in $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{ICl}_2$ (Visser & Vos, 1964), average value 2.58 Å in piperazinium bis(dichloroiodide), $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2 \cdot 2\text{HICl}_2$ (Rømming, 1958). In the present examples the average I-Cl distance is 0.22 Å longer than the sum of the covalent radii of iodine and chlorine atoms. These facts are consistent with the idea that the three atoms are linked by a three-center four-electron bond (Rundle, 1962).

The packing

The structure of KICl_2 exhibits pairs of parallel dichloroiodide ions arranged in a herringbone pattern (Fig. 1). Each pair consists of two ions related by a center of symmetry. The pairs formed from the two crystallographically independent ions are remarkably similar (see Fig. 3 and Table 5). Within these pairs the iodine atoms are separated by 4.139 (4) and 4.156 (4) Å, slightly less than the van der Waals separation of 4.30 Å; no other distances are shorter than the van der Waals value. Adjacent pairs are well separated. Apparently the anions are drawn together in parallel orientation by van der Waals interaction, in spite of electrostatic repulsion, and then shifted lengthwise so that the iodine atoms of one fits into the constriction at the I-Cl bond of the other.

The arrangement of potassium ions around each of the two independent dichloroiodide pairs is shown in Fig. 3 and corresponding interatomic distances are

given in Table 5. Each chlorine atom has three neighboring potassium ions. Around the anion Cl(1)-I(1)-Cl(2) the average Cl...K distance is 3.22 Å around Cl(2) and 3.27 Å around Cl(1). Around the anion Cl(3)-I(2)-Cl(4) the average Cl...K distance is 3.18 Å around both chlorine atoms. The similarity in the environment at each end of each anion implies a similar electrostatic potential in each case, as is usual for symmetrical trihalide ions (Migchelsen & Vos, 1967).

In $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ there are strips of parallel dichloroiodide ions running along the *c* direction (see Fig. 2). The I...I approach is 4.35 (2) Å, approximately equal to the van der Waals separation and somewhat longer than the corresponding distance in KICl_2 . Nevertheless, the orientation of adjacent anions along these strips is similar to that of a pair of anions in KICl_2 . Within a sheet of such strips extending along the *b* direction, the strips are alternately pivoted clockwise and counterclockwise about *c*. The water molecules and potassium ions fit into the spaces thus created.

The electrostatic environment around each dichloroiodide ion is symmetrical by virtue of the ion lying on a center of symmetry. Significant interatomic distances are given in Table 6.

Each oxygen atom lies on a mirror plane, with three pairs of mirror-related chlorine atoms nearby, as shown in Fig. 2. The shortest O...Cl distance, 3.39 (1) Å, is shown dotted in Fig. 2; the next shortest are more than 0.2 Å greater. Each of the shortest distances represents a weak hydrogen bond, although it is about 0.3 Å longer than a strong O-H...Cl bond such as that in $\text{HCl} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Lundgren & Olovsson, 1967). It is comparable with the reported hydrogen-bond lengths 3.35 Å in $\text{HICl}_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Bateman & Bateman, 1972) and 3.42 Å in $\text{KICl}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Elema, de Boer & Vos, 1963). As the latter authors pointed out, the increased length relative to that involving simple chloride ions is the result of the lesser charge on the chlorine atom. The

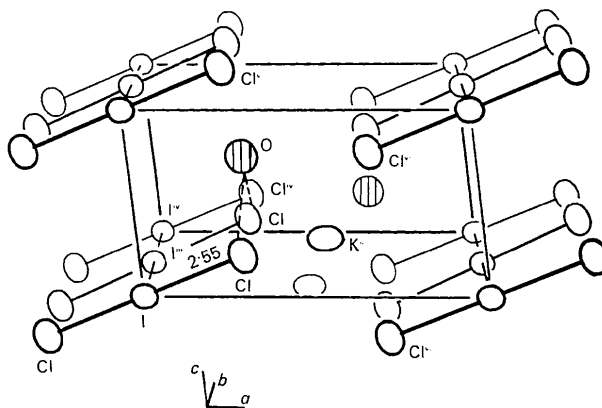


Fig. 2. Packing diagram of $\text{KICl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. The oxygen (shaded) and potassium atoms lie on mirror planes at $y = \frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$. The dotted lines show the hydrogen bonds between the oxygen atom of the water molecule and the chlorine atoms.

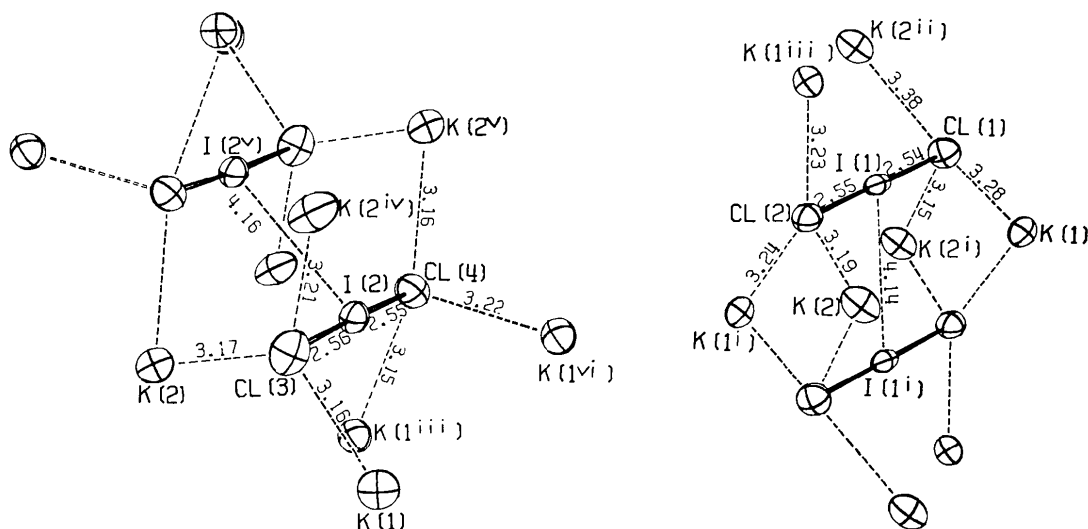


Fig. 3. Arrangement of K^+ ions around the ends of the two independent ICl_2^- ion pairs in $KICl_2$.

angle $Cl \cdots O \cdots Cl$ between two hydrogen bonds is 111.4° , which is reasonable for a hydrogen-bonded system. The existence of some hydrogen bonding was confirmed by the infrared absorption spectrum of a Nujol mull recorded with a Perkin-Elmer 257 spectrometer. The spectrum showed a broad band at 3150 cm^{-1} with width at half height of 270 cm^{-1} ; such a band indicates hydrogen bonding (Hamilton & Ibers, 1968).

Although evidence is found for multicenter bonds linking trihalide ions in other examples, as mentioned in the introduction, there is no indication of such a feature in either of these structures. This illustrates the reluctance of a halogen as electronegative as chlorine to serve as the central atom in a multicenter bond.

This work was supported in part by the National Science Foundation.

References

- ALLISON, G. F. & CHEESMAN, G. H. (1958). *J. Chem. Soc.* pp. 1177-1178.
- BATEMAN, R. J. & BATEMAN, L. R. (1972). *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **94**, 1130-1134.
- BUSING, W. R., MARTIN, K. O. & LEVY, H. A. (1962). ORFLS. Report ORNL-305, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- CARPENTER, G. B. (1966). *Acta Cryst.* **20**, 330-334.
- CORNWELL, C. D. & YAMASAKI, R. S. (1957). *J. Chem. Phys.* **27**, 1060-1067.
- CREMER, H. W. & DUNCAN, D. R. (1931). *J. Chem. Soc.* pp. 1857-1866.
- ELEMA, R. J., DE BOER, J. L. & VOS, A. (1963). *Acta Cryst.* **16**, 243-247.
- HAMILTON, W. C. (1956). *Acta Cryst.* **10**, 629-634.
- HAMILTON, W. C. & IBERS, J. A. (1968). *Hydrogen Bonding in Solids*, pp. 85-88. New York: Benjamin.
- LUNDGREN, J. O. & OLOVSSON, I. (1967). *Acta Cryst.* **23**, 966-971.
- MIGCHELSEN, T. & VOS, A. (1967). *Acta Cryst.* **23**, 796-804.
- RUNDLE, R. E. (1962). *Record. Chem. Progr.* **23**, 206-215.
- RÖMMING, C. (1958). *Acta Chem. Scand.* **12**, 668.
- WELLS, H. L. (1901). *Amer. Chem. J.* **26**, 265-268.
- WELLS, H. L., WHEELER, H. L. & PENFIELD, S. L. (1892). *Amer. J. Sci.* **43**, 475-487.
- VISSER, G. L. & VOS, A. (1964). *Acta Cryst.* **17**, 1336-1337.
- YAMASAKI, R. S. & CORNWELL, C. D. (1959). *J. Chem. Phys.* **30**, 1265-1271.
- ZALKIN, A. (1965). *FORDAP*. A Fortran Program for Fourier Calculation. Univ. of California, Berkeley.