Further spectroscopic investigations will be carried out in order to explain the nature of the hydrogen bond in solution.

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SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

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Acta Cryst. (1978). B**34**, 3494

Refinement of Nb_3Si and Nb_3As: errata.

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In Table 5 of the paper by Waterstrat, Yvon, Flack & Parthé [*Acta Cryst.* (1975), B**31**, 2765–2769] the positional parameters which are presented for the compound Ta_3P (reference 11) are, in fact, those of the compound Zr_3P.

All the relevant information is contained in the Abstract.

Acta Cryst. (1978). B**34**, 3494–3496

The crystal structure of tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)silane.

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The crystal structure of $(C_6F_5)_4Si$ has been determined from three-dimensional single-crystal X-ray data collected on a computer-automated diffractometer. The compound crystallizes in space group $I4_1/a$ with cell dimensions of a = 17·165 (12), c = 8·125 (8) Å and Z = 4. The $(C_6F_5)_4Si$ molecules have S_4 crystallographically imposed symmetry. Full-matrix least-squares refinement yielded a conventional R factor of 0·070.

The molecular symmetry, crystal packing and energetics of tetra(aryl) Group IV*a* compounds have been the object of numerous recent investigations (Karipides & Oertel, 1977; Hutchings, Andose & Mislow, 1975; Robbins, Jeffrey, Chesick, Donohue, Cotton, Frenz & Murillo, 1975; Hutchings, Nourse & Mislow, 1974; Ahmed, Kitaigorodsky & Mirskaya, 1971). As part of our program to study the structural characteristics of such compounds we have determined the crystal structures of the pentafluorophenyl derivatives of Ge and Sn (Karipides, Forman, Thomas & Reed, 1974) and in this paper report on the crystal structure of tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)silane.

The title compound was kindly supplied by Dr C. Tamborski (Tamborski, Soloski & Dec, 1965) and suitable crystals were obtained by recrystallization from benzene. Indexed Weissenberg photographs revealed tetragonal symmetry and the observed absences $h + k + l = 2n + 1$ for hkl; h, $(k) = 2n + 1$ for $hk0$; $l = 4n + 1$ for $00l$ uniquely determined the space group to be $I4_1/a$. The pertinent crystal data are given in Table 1.