Tableau 2. Distances (Å) et angles interatomiques (°)

 avec les écarts types entre parenthèses

Groupements 7 P(1)O(11) P(1)O(12) P(1)O(13) P(1)H(1)	PO ₃ H ²⁻ 1,501 (9) 1,560 (9) 1,495 (7) 1,41	P(2)—O(21) P(2)—O(22) P(2)—O(23) P(2)—H(2)	1,542 (7) 1,502 (7) 1,516 (8) 1,41			
$\begin{array}{c} O(11) - P(1) - O(1) \\ O(11) - P(1) - O(1) \\ O(12) - P(1) - O(1) \\ O(12) - P(1) - H(1) \\ O(12) - P(1) - H(1) \\ O(13) - P(1) \\ O($	(13) 116,1 (5) (13) 105,8 (4) (1) 107,5 (1) 107,7	$\begin{array}{c} O(21) - P(2) - O(\\ O(21) - P(2) - O(\\ O(22) - P(2) - O(\\ O(21) - P(2) - H(\\ O(22) - P(2) - H(\\ O(23) - H(\\ O(23$	23) 112,0 (4) 23) 114,3 (5) 2) 108,0 2) 108,0			
Groupement LaO ₈						
La—O(11)	2,471 (8)	La—O(13)	2,475 (7)			
La—O(13)	2,568 (7)	La—O(21)	2,485 (7)			
La—O(22)	2,677 (7)	La—O(22)	2,492 (7)			
La—O(23)	2,429 (7)	La—W(3)	2,561 (8)			
Molécules d'eau						
W(1)…W(3)	2,82 (1)	W(2)····O(12)	2,59 (1)			
W(1)…W(3)	2,85 (1)	W(2)…O(13)	2,75 (1)			
W(1)…W(2)	2,85 (1)	W(2)…O(23)	2,90 (1)			
W(3)…O(11)	2,82 (1)					

Les molécules d'eau assurent avec le cation La^{3+} , la cohésion de l'édifice structural. Les atomes d'hydrogène de ces molécules n'ont pas été positionés et les plus courtes distances W...O ne permettent pas de prédire la direction de ces liaisons (Tableau 2c). On observe pour W(1) trois distances longues (2,82 et 2,85 Å) révélatrices d'un réseau complexe de liaisons hydrogène faibles. Pour W(2) mise à part la distance courte $W(2)\cdots O(12)$, deux atomes d'oxygène se trouvent à des distances de 2,75 et 2,90 Å. Alors que W(3) se trouve à une distance de 2,82 Å de O(11). Ici aussi ces liaisons hydrogènes sont faibles.

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Structure Refinement of Monoclinic 12-Layer TaNi₃ with β -NbPt₃ Type. New Crystallographic Descriptions of this Type and of the Nb₃Rh₅ Type Based on Smaller Unit Cells

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Abstract. The atom arrangements in the β -NbPt₃ and Nb₃Rh₅ [=(Nb_{0.75}Rh_{0.25})Rh] structures can be described with unit cells having only one third of the original volumes. β -NbPt₃: mP16, P2₁/m, a = 4.870, b = 5.537, c = 9.268 Å, $\beta = 100.62^{\circ}$. Nb₃Rh₅: mP6, P2/m, a = 4.772, b = 2.806, c = 6.949 Å, $\beta = 103.76^{\circ}$. According to the new description (Nb_{0.75}Rh_{0.25})Rh is isotypic to LiSn. Structure refinement of 12-layer TaNi₃ with β -NbPt₃ type, $M_r = 357.078$, mP16, $P2_1/m - f^2e^4$, a = 4.5319 (6), b = 5.1253 (8), c =8.632 (1) Å, $\beta = 100.79$ (1)°, V = 196.96 (4) Å³, Z =4, $D_x = 12.038$ Mg m⁻³, λ (Mo $K\alpha$) = 0.71073 Å, μ = 82.661 mm^{-1} , F(000) = 628, T = 300 K, R = 0.068, wR = 0.062 for 309 contributing unique reflections. The new description of the structure type is confirmed.

Introduction. The β -NbPt₃ and Nb₃Rh₅ structures are substitution variants of close-packed structures with stackings *hhcc* and *hhc*, respectively (Giessen & Grant, 1964). The results of the application of *MISSYM* (Le Page, 1988) to the β -NbPt₃ and Nb₃Rh₅ data suggest a non-space-group translation in both structures. This means that the unit cells in

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the original paper do not correspond to the smallest possible ones and consequently the crystallographic descriptions of these structures should be changed.

The β -NbPt₃ type and isotypes

An intensity calculation of β -NbPt₃ based on the published structure data, transformed to standard space group setting $P12_1/m1$, indicates that all reflections *hkl*, where *l* is not 3n + h, have zero intensity. This is an indication that the chosen unit cell is too large.

The β -NbPt₃ structure can be described with a unit cell having only one third of the original volume without changing the space group $P2_1/m$. Performing a unit-cell transformation based on

$$a' = b, b' = -a \text{ and } c' = -\frac{1}{3}b + \frac{1}{3}c$$
 (1)

and standardizing the results with the STRUCTURE-TIDY program (Gelato & Parthé, 1987), the original structure data can be transformed into the data shown in Table 1. Note that (1) also includes a change from $P2_1/m11$ to standard setting $P12_1/m1$. The transformation can be made without any approximations since there is a perfect equivalence of the different atom positions which must coincide with the description using the small unit cell. Since the original atom coordinates had been given as fractions, the transformed data are presented to two decimal places. It seems probable that Giessen & Grant (1964), for a comparison with other closepacked structures, selected a large unit cell where the monoclinic angle is close to 90°; however, this is not the correct crystallographic description.

The β -NbPt₃ type has also been reported for β -TaPt₃ (Giessen & Grant, 1964) and 12-layer TaNi₃, stable between 1128 and 1473 K (Ruhl, Giessen, Cohen & Grant, 1967). According to a later paper (Giessen & Grant, 1967) the 12-layer TaNi₃, also denoted as TaNi₃(12)S, is the equilibrium structure of TaNi₃ up to the melting point. For the reported isotypic phases the following new smaller unit-cell parameters can be calculated:

β-TaPt₃: a = 4.869, b = 5.537, c = 9.269 Å, $\beta = 100.62^{\circ}, Z = 4$. 12-layer TaNi₃:

 $a = 4.523, b = 5.126, c = 8.612 \text{ Å}, \beta = 100.91^{\circ}, Z = 4.$

In the original papers on β -NbPT₃ and isotypes no error limits were given for the lattice constants and the adjustable positional atom coordinates were approximated by simple fractions, thus we considered it worthwhile re-examining this structure type using single-crystal diffraction methods. The isotypic 12-layer TaNi₃ structure was chosen to confirm the new description of this structure type.

Table 1. New standardized description of the β -NbPt₃ type with smaller unit cell

Data transformed from the original ones published by Giessen & Grant (1964).

<i>mP</i> 16, <i>P</i> 12 ₁ / <i>m</i> l, $a = 4.870$, $b = 5.537$, $c = 9.268$ Å, $\beta = 100.62^{\circ}$.						
			x	у	z	
Pt(1)	in	4(f)	~0.13	~0.0	~0.38	
Pt(2)	in	4(f)	~0.71	~0.0	~0.13	
Pt(3)	in	2(e)	~0.21	4	~0.13	
Pt(4)	in	2(e)	~0.38	1 4	~0.63	
Nb(1)	in	2(e)	~0.63	14	~0.38	
Nb(2)	in	2(e)	~0.79	4	~0.88	

Experimental.

Refinement of 12-layer TaNi₃. A sample of nominal composition TaNi₃ was prepared by arc melting under argon atmosphere (Ta 99.9 and Ni 99.99%). The weight loss was 0.2%. The sample was annealed at 1373 K for 14 d in a silica tube under 4.00 × 10 Pa argon atmosphere. A single crystal with an irregular shape (approximate mean radius: 0.024 mm), obtained from the annealed sample, was mounted on a Philips PW 1100 automatic four-circle diffractometer, Mo $K\alpha$ radiation with graphite monochromator. The small unit cell (a = 4.532, b = 5.125, c = 8.632 Å, $\beta \approx 101^{\circ}$) was first found and then transformed into the large unit cell (a = 4.532, b =5.125, c = 25.44 Å, $\beta \simeq 90^{\circ}$). A small set of data was collected based on the large cell to test the correctness of the unit-cell transformation. It was found that, in addition to the reflections hkl with l = 3n + hwhich were expected, some weak reflection hkl with l= 3n - h occur, all other reflections *hkl* having zero intensity. The positions of the reflections with l = 3n-h were measured and indexed also by the small unit cell, but with a different orientation matrix. This led us to assume that the crystal contains two domains of different volumes which are twins. The twin plane was found to be (001) which is parallel to the AB_3 layers in the structure. If there is twinning in the structure this would be the plane which one would expect to be the twin plane. The mutual orientations of the twin domains are such that reflections hkl with h not being 3n (small and large cell) come from only one or the other twin domain. When h = 3n the observed intensity has contributions from both domains.

The unit cell was transformed again into the small one and the orientation fixed on the large domain to make a new data collection. The unit-cell parameters given in the *Abstract* were refined from 2θ values of 35 reflections (Mo $K\alpha$, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, $18 < 2\theta <$ 40°) using the program *LATCON* (Schwarzenbach, 1966). They are close to the calculated values given above. 1352 reflections were collected out to $(\sin\theta)/\lambda$ = 0.702 Å⁻¹ ($0 \le h \le 6$, $0 \le k \le 7$, $-12 \le l \le 12$ and corresponding anti-reflections) in the ω -2 θ scan mode, yielding 636 unique reflections ($R_{int} = 0.10$). Two standard reflections $(1\overline{2}\overline{2} \text{ and } 00\overline{4})$ were measured with maximum intensity variations 2.2 and 1.8% respectively. The spherical absorption correction was made by using the program ABSORB with max. and min. transmission factors of 0.0917 and 0.0646. The anomalous-dispersion factors were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV). The extinction of 0k0 with k =2n + 1 led to two possible space groups: P2₁ and $P2_1/m$. The space group $P2_1/m$ in standard setting (International Tables for Crystallography, 1983, Vol. A) and the atomic positional parameters of the transformed data for the β -NbPt₃ structure in Table 1 were used as starting data for the structure refinement. The refinement was based on |F| values using anisotropic atomic displacement parameters and the program CRYLSO (Olthof-Hazekamp, 1989). 43 variables refined to R = 0.070 and wR =0.066 $[w = 1/\sigma^2(|F_{rel}|), S = 2.071]$ considering 375 contributing unique reflections with $|F| \ge 3\sigma(F)$. The max. shift/e.s.d. in the last cycle is 0.00007.* The final residual electron density is $-9.7-12.1 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$. The programs used to refine the structure are from the XTAL2.6 system (Hall & Stewart, 1989).

A second refinement was carried out excluding the coincident reflections hkl with h = 3n. 43 variables refined to R = 0.068 and wR = 0.062 [w = $1/\sigma^2(|F_{rel}|)$, S = 1.723] considering 309 contributing unique reflections with $|F| \ge 3\sigma(F)$. The max. shift/ e.s.d. in the last cycle is 0.00006.* The final residual electron density is $-7.8-6.3 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$. The positions of the largest peak and hole are around the heavy Ta atoms (distances less than 0.8 Å). The atomic positional and displacement parameters obtained from the second refinement are given in Table 2 and interatomic distances up to 3.5 Å in Table 3. A comparison of the two refinements shows that the atomic positional parameters and the interatomic distances do not differ significantly but the R values and the residual electron densities are lower in the refinement excluding the reflections hkl with h = 3n.

The relatively high R values and residual electron density are due to the quality of the crystal. Since the sample is not brittle it is very difficult to break it without producing stacking faults near the crystal boundary. It is very difficult to obtain a monodomain crystal and the twinning of the crystal may be produced simply by moderate force. Also Giessen & Grant (1967) had noted that cold work will proTable 2. Atomic positional and displacement parameters for the 12-layer TaNi₃ structure (space group $P12_1/m1$) (refinement excluding the reflections hkl with h = 3n)

The equivalent atomic displacement factors are expressed as $U_{eq} = (1/3)\sum_i \sum_j U_{ij} a_i^* a_j^* a_i \cdot a_j$. E.s.d.'s are given in parentheses.

Ni(1) Ni(2) Ni(3)	in in in	Wyckoff position 4(f) 4(f) 2(e)	<i>x</i> 0·1130 (13) 0·7044 (13) 0·2011 (20)	y 0·0025 (9) 0·0017 (7)	z 0·3736 (5) 0·1235 (6) 0·1262 (9)	$U_{eq}(\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^2) \\ 0.6 (2) \\ 0.8 (2) \\ 0.6 (3)$
Ni(4) Ta(1) Ta(2)	in in in	2(e) 2(e) 2(e) 2(e)	0·3675 (18) 0·6115 (6) 0·7907 (6)	1 4 1 4	0.6234 (7) 0.3781 (2) 0.8722 (3)	0.6 (3) 0.4 (1) 0.41 (9)

Table 3. Interatomic distances up to 3.5 Å in 12-layer TaNi₃ (refinement excluding the reflections hkl with h = 3n)

Ta(1)-2Ni(4)	2.5645 (5)	Ni(2)—Ni(2)	2.546 (5)
Ni(4)	2.566 (8)	Ni(2)	2.550 (7)
Ni(3)	2 583 (8)	Ni(1)	2.568 (7)
2Ni(1)	2.585 (6)	Ni(2)	2.580 (5)
2Ni(1)	2.609 (6)	Ni(3)	2.583 (10)
2Ni(1)	2.613 (5)	Ta(2)	2.594 (6)
2Ni(2)	2.640 (5)	Ta(2)	2.607 (5)
Ta(2)-2Ni(3)	2.5629 (4)	Ni(4)	2.610 (8)
2Ni(1)	2.591 (5)	Ni(3)	2.615 (9)
2Ni(2)	2.594 (6)	Ni(3)	2.616 (10)
Ni(3)	2.596 (8)	Ta(2)	2.621 (6)
Ni(4)	2.598 (7)	Ta(1)	2.640 (5)
2Ni(2)	2.607 (5)	Ni(3)-2Ta(2)	2.5629 (4)
2Ni(2)	2.621 (6)	2Ni(1)	2.579 (8)
Ni(1) - Ni(1)	2.537 (7)	2Ni(2)	2.583 (10)
Ni(4)	2.538 (9)	Ta(1)	2.583 (8)
Ni(2)	2.568 (7)	Ta(2)	2.596 (8)
Ni(3)	2.579 (8)	2Ni(2)	2.615 (9)
Ni(1)	2.579 (7)	2Ni(2)	2·616 (10)
Ni(4)	2.580 (7)	Ni(4)—2Ni(1)	2·538 (9)
Ta(1)	2.585 (6)	2Ta(1)	2.5645 (5)
Ni(1)	2.588 (7)	Ta(1)	2.566 (8)
Ta(2)	2.591 (5)	2Ni(1)	2.580 (7)
Ta(1)	2.609 (6)	Ta(2)	2.598 (7)
Ta(1)	2.613 (5)	2Ni(2)	2.610 (8)
Ni(4)	2.682 (9)	2Ni(1)	2.682 (9)

voke a change of the 12-layer $TaNi_3$ structure to the 3-layer $TaNi_3$ modification with $TiAl_3$ type. Therefore, whenever the crystal is broken by force, stacking faults occur in the region near the surface which can lead to particular diffraction effects. The stacking disorder does not, however, influence the atom ordering inside the layers.

Discussion.

The β -NbPt₃ type. The basic construction element of the β -NbPt₃ type is a close-packed atom layer of composition AB_3 . There are only two ways to arrange, in an ordered fashion, A and B atoms in the ratio 1:3 on a plane if two conditions are to be met: *i.e.* (i) there must be no contacts between the minority atoms and (ii) coordination circles of all minority atoms must be identical and non-rotated.

^{*} Lists of observed and calculated structure factors, atomic parameters and interatomic distances for both refinements (excluding and including reflections hkl with h = 3n) have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 53538 (10 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

As a result one finds a hexagonal AB_3 and a rectangular AB_3 layer with plane group p6mm and p2mm, respectively, shown on the upper part of Fig. 1. These layers will be stacked in a close packed manner with the restriction that there should be no contacts between minority atoms of different planes. The stacking is conveniently characterized by the Jagodzinski–Wyckoff stacking symbols. Ten AB_3 structure types are known which can be interpreted as different stackings of the hexagonal AB_3 layer: Ni₃Sn LT $[(h)_2]$, Ba(Pb_{0.8}Tl_{0.2})₃ $[(hhhchhc)_2]$, BaPb₃ $[(hhc)_3], \gamma$ -Ta(Pd_{0.67}Rh_{0.33})₃ $[(hhchc)_2], TiNi_3 [(hc)_2],$ PuGa₃ HT [(hhcc)₃], HoAl₃ [(hcchc)₃], PuAl₃ HT $[(hcc)_2]$, Ti(Pt_{0.89}Ni_{0.11})₃ [hcccchc], Cu₃Au [(c)₃]. Four other AB_3 structure types represent stackings of the rectangular AB_3 layer: β -TiCu₃ LT [(h_2], β -NbPt₃ $[(hhcc)_3]$, β -NbPd₃ $[(hcc)_2]$, TiAl₃ $[(c)_3]$. Thus the β -NbPt₃ structure, as mentioned under the last group, is built up of 12 rectangular AB_3 layers in (hhcc)₃ stacking.

From Table 3 one can see that in 12-layer $TaNi_3$ the distances around the central atom to the 12 nearest neigbouring atoms are similar. There are no significant differences between Ta–Ni and Ni–Ni distances, although the sums of the atomic radii are different (Ta–Ni: 2.713 and Ni–Ni: 2.492 Å). This contraction of the Ta–Ni distances is observed also

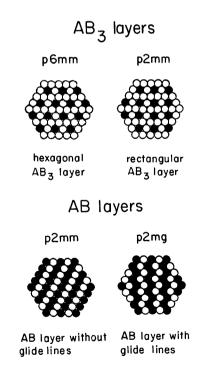


Fig. 1. The two kinds of close packed AB_3 and AB layers where the number of the homonuclear contacts is a minimum. In each AB_3 layer coordination circles of all the minority atoms are identical and non-rotated. In each AB layer the planar coordinations of all atoms are equal. Table 4. New standardized description of the Nb_3Rh_5 [= ($Nb_{0.75}Rh_{0.25}$)Rh] type with smaller unit cell

Data transformed from the original ones published by Giessen & Grant (1964). The mixed sites are denoted by X.

<i>mP</i> 6, <i>P</i> 12/ <i>m</i> 1, $a = 4.772$, $b = 2.806$, $c = 6.949$ Å, $\beta = 103.76^{\circ}$.					
			x	у	z
X(1)	in	2(n)	~0.28	12	~0.33
Rh(1)	in	2(<i>m</i>)	~0.22	0	~0.67
X(2)	in	1(e)	1 2	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
Rh(2)	in	1(<i>a</i>)	Ō	Ō	0

The values reported in *Structure Reports* Vol. **29**, p. 71 for the 2(m) sites of Nb₃Rh₅ are those belonging to the 2(n) sites and vice versa.

for the other two close-packed TaNi₃ structures, *i.e.* the 2-layer TaNi₃ structure (β -TiCu₃ LT type) (Pylaeva, Gladyshevskii & Kripyakevich, 1958) and the 3-laver TaNi₃ structure (TiAl₃ type) (Nowotny & Oesterreicher, 1964). In the 2-layer TaNi₃ structure the Ta-Ni distances are 2.549, 2.557, 2.606, 2.626 Å and in the 3-layer structure 2.565, 2.601 Å respectively. In both compounds the Ni-Ni distances have the same values. The space fillings* of 12-layer TaNi₃, 2-layer TaNi₃ and 3-layer TaNi₃ are 76.2, 76.0 and 76.5%, respectively, if we assume the hard sphere model $(r_{Ta} = 1.467 \text{ Å} \text{ and } r_{Ni} = 1.246 \text{ Å}).$ These values, which are slightly larger than that of the ideal close packed structure (0.74), may be expected because of the strong interactions between Ta and Ni atoms.

The Nb₃Rh₅ [= (Nb_{0.75}Rh_{0.25})Rh] type. The Nb₃Rh₅ structure can also be described with a unit cell having only one third of the original volume without changing the space group, in this case P2/m. Using the same unit-cell transformation as in (1) and structure standardization, the original structure data are transformed into the new data, shown in Table 4.

Comparing this new crystallographic description of the Nb₃Rh₅ structure with known data of other structure types, we find that this compound is isotypic to LiSn (Müller & Schäfer, 1973) for which the standardized data are reported in Table 5. The fact that LiSn has been determined by single-crystal diffraction methods makes us feel confident that the new description of the Nb–Rh alloy structure is correct, even without experimentally re-examining it. We shall henceforth refer to this atom arrangement as the LiSn type.

The basic construction element of the LiSn type is also a close-packed atom layer but here of composition AB. If one admits that (i) the number of homonuclear contacts must be as small as possible and (ii) all atoms must have the same planar coordination, there are only two ways to arrange, in an orderly fashion, the A and B atoms on a plane. Both layers,

^{*} Space filling of $\overline{\text{TaNi}_3 = [(4/3\pi (r_{\text{Ta}}^3 + 3r_{\text{Ni}}^3)]Z/V_{\text{measured}}}$.

Table 5. The standardized structure data for LiSn based on the values given by Müller & Schäfer (1973)

*mP*6, *P*12/*m*l, $a = 5 \cdot 17 \pm 0.02$, $b = 3 \cdot 18 \pm 0.02$, $c = 7 \cdot 74 \pm 0.02$ Å, $\beta = 104 \cdot 5 \pm 0.3^{\circ}$.

Li(1)	in	2(<i>n</i>)	x 0·263	<i>y</i> 1 2	<i>z</i> 0·336
Sn(1)	in	2(<i>m</i>)	0.234	0	0.660
Li(2)	in	1(e)	12	12	0
Sn(2)	in	1(<i>a</i>)	0	0	0

Note that LiSn had to be transformed from setting P112/m to standard setting P12/m1. This was obviously also intended in *Structure Reports* Vol. **39**A, p. 82, but while the atom coordinates were transformed to the setting with b axis unique, the cell parameters given correspond to the original setting with c axis unique.

shown in the lower part of Fig. 1, are rectangular and have plane groups p2mm and p2mg, respectively. Four AB structure types can be interpreted as different stackings of the rectangular p2mm layer: MgCd $[(h)_2]$, LiSn $[(hhc)_3]$, α -TaRh $[(hcc)_2]$ and TiAl $[(c)_3]$. The UPb $[(c)_3]$ type is the only AB type known where p2mg layers are stacked. The LiSn type is built up of 9 rectangular AB layers without a glide line which are stacked in the sequence $(hhc)_3$. We wish to acknowledge the help of Mrs Christine Boffi in typing the text and of Mrs Birgitta Künzler in preparing the drawings. We also thank Dr Karin Cenzual for useful comments. This study was supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation under contract 20-28490.90.

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Structure Determination of Ba(OD)Br.2D₂O by Neutron Powder Diffraction

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Abstract. Barium hydroxide bromide dihydrate (d-5), Ba(OD)Br.2D₂O, $M_r = 275 \cdot 32$, tetragonal, P4/nmm, Z = 2, neutron radiation, $\lambda = 1 \cdot 09$ Å, $\mu_{calc} = 0 \cdot 065 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $F(000) = 126 \cdot 62 \text{ fm}$, $[(\sin\theta)/\lambda]_{max} = 0 \cdot 632 \text{ Å}^{-1}$, $T_1 = 300 \text{ K}$, $a = 4 \cdot 5825 (4)$, $c = 11 \cdot 791 (2)$ Å, $V = 247 \cdot 60 (3)$ Å³, $D_x = 3 \cdot 693 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$, $R_{profile} = 0 \cdot 0208$; $T_2 = 16 \text{ K}$, $a = 4 \cdot 5567 (2)$, $c = 11 \cdot 718 (1)$ Å, $V = 243 \cdot 30 (1)$ Å³, $D_x = 3 \cdot 758 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$, $R_{profile} = 0 \cdot 0209$. The structure is related to the PbFCl type with ninefold coordination of the Ba atoms. The OD⁻ ions are not coordinated to the Ba atoms, but are acceptors of four very strong hydrogen bonds. The OD distances are 0.992 (5) [0.994 (4)] Å for D₂O, 0.956 (13) [0.951 (9)] Å for OD⁻ and 1.639 (5) [1.622 (4)] Å for DOD^{-..OD⁻}.

Introduction. Recently we reported the crystal structure of $Ba(OH)Cl.2H_2O$, which is the first representative of a new structure type (Lutz, Kellersohn & Beckenkamp, 1989). From vibrational spectra and X-ray powder photographs it was inferred that $Ba(OH)Br.2H_2O$ is isotypic. Because single crystals of sufficient quality for an X-ray structure determination could not be grown, we performed a neu-

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