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Acta Cryst. (1991). C47, 2433-2435

# Structure of Gadolinium Hexacyanoferrate(III) Tetrahydrate 

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#### Abstract

GdFe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} .4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \quad M_{r}=441 \cdot 26\), orthorhombic, $C m c m, a=7.3964$ (3), $b=12.8372$ (5), $c=$ 13.6726 (4) $\AA, \quad V=1298.21$ (8) $\AA^{3}, \quad Z=4, \quad D_{m}=$ 2.23 (2), $D_{x}=2.26 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}, \lambda($ Мо $K \bar{\alpha})=0.71073 \AA$, $\mu=6.223 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}, F(000)=832, T=291 \mathrm{~K}$, final $R$ $=0.016$ for 1017 absorption-corrected unique reflections with $F_{o} \geq 6 \sigma\left|F_{o}\right|$. The eight-coordinated Gd ion is bonded to six cyano N atoms and two water molecules in a square antiprism geometry ( $D_{4 d}$ ), the $\mathrm{GdN}_{6}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{2}$ group. The Fe ion is octahedrally coordinated to six cyano C atoms, the $\mathrm{FeC}_{6}$ group. Cyanide bridging links these groups to build an infinite polymeric array. Cavities within the structure are occupied by uncoordinated zeolitic water molecules, $\mathrm{O}(1)$, which are within hydrogen-bonding distances $(2 \cdot 818 \AA)$ to the coordinated water molecules, $\mathrm{O}(1)$. Important mean bond distances are: $\mathrm{Gd}-\mathrm{N}$


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$=2.489(14) ; \quad \mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}=1.927(4) ; \quad$ and $\quad \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{N}=$
$1.152(1) \AA$.
Experimental. Crystals of $\mathrm{GdFe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} .4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ were synthesized by a procedure similar to that of Prandtl \& Mohr (1938). An aqueous acidic solution ( $\mathrm{pH}=$ 4.0 ) of $0.2 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{GdCl}_{3}$ was added to 15 ml of 0.1 M $\mathrm{K}_{3} \mathrm{Fe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6}$. The mixture was stirred, filtered and stored in the dark at room temperature. Clear darkred crystals formed after three to five days. The metal constituents and their ratios were verified by X-ray fluorescence analysis on a Novascan 30 SEM. The water content was confirmed by thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA), 3.9 (1) $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ molecules/ formula unit. The flotation method (bromobenzene and 1,1,2,2-tetrabromoethane) was employed to determine the experimental density. Infrared spec-

Table 1. Atomic coordinates and isotropic equivalent thermal parameters ( $\AA^{2} \times 10^{2}$ ) with e.s.d.'s in parentheses
$U_{\mathrm{eq}}$ is defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized $U_{i j}$ tensor.

|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $x$ | $0.32350(1)$ | 0.25 | $1.081(4)$ |
| Gd | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | $1.10(1)$ |
| Fe | 0.0 | $0.4526(2)$ | $0.0890(2)$ | $1.83(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $0.3147(3)$ | $0.1359(2)$ | $0.0593(2)$ | $1.81(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 0.0 | $0.4233(2)$ | $0.1505(2)$ | $2.26(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $0.2025(3)$ | $0.2161(2)$ | $0.0972(2)$ | $2.60(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 0.0 | $0.2164(2)$ | 0.25 | $3.41(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $0.2610(4)$ | $0.6567(2)$ | $0.0996(3)$ | $3.72(8)$ |

Table 2. Interatomic distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ with e.s.d.'s in parentheses

| $\mathrm{Gd}-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $2.475(2)$ | $\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $178.6(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Gd}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $2.503(2)$ | $\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $178.3(3)$ |
| Av. | $2.489(14)$ | Av. | $178.4(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Gd}-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $2.370(2)$ | $\mathrm{Gd}-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $167.2(2)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{Gd}-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $150.1(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1.931(2)$ | Av. | $159(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1.923(3)$ |  |  |
| Av. | $1.927(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(1)^{\prime}$ | $89.6(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $1.152(3)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(1)^{\prime \prime}$ | $90.4(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 92)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $1.153(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $88.85(8)$ |
| Av. | $1.152(1)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)^{\prime}-\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $9.15(8)$ |
|  | Av. | $90.0(9)$ |  |

troscopy ( KBr pressed-pellet) provided relevant data: 3620 ( $\nu, \mathrm{OH}$ ); 3415 ( $\nu$, broad OH , hydrogen bonding); 2130 ( $\nu, \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{N}$ ); 1630 ( $\delta, \mathrm{HOH}$ ); 550 ( $\delta$, $\mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{CN}$ ) and $440 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}(\nu, \mathrm{Fe}-\mathrm{C})$.
After verifying the biaxial nature and homogeneity of the system by a conoscopic examination, a single crystal ( $0.13 \times 0.14 \times 0.26 \mathrm{~mm}$ ) was mounted on an Enraf-Nonius CAD-4F diffractometer equipped with graphite-monochromated Mo $K \alpha$ radiation, take-off angle $5 \cdot 8^{\circ}$. The orientation matrix was obtained from 25 diffractometer-measured reflections ( $5.0<\theta<18.0^{\circ}$ ). Final unit-cell parameters using 25 reflections were determined at high angles $(20<\theta<$ $30^{\circ}$ ). 2190 reflections were collected using the $\omega-2 \theta$ scan technique ( $h, 0 \rightarrow 10 ; k, 0 \rightarrow 18 ; l, 0 \rightarrow 19$ ), variable scan rate of $0.37-2.75^{\circ} \mathrm{min}^{-1}, 3.0<2 \theta<60.0^{\circ}$; intensities of three check reflections ( $400, \overline{1}, 11, \overline{2}, 3 \overline{5} 1$ ) measured as a function of time (every 2 h ) revealed only random deviations; Lorentz-polarization and empirical high- $\chi$-angle absorption corrections, min. 0.9800 -max. 1.0000 (North, Phillips \& Mathews, 1968); after eliminating systematic absences, 1059 reflections were unique of which 1017 reflections ( $F_{o}$ $\left.\geq 6 \sigma\left|F_{o}\right|\right)$ were used in the solution and refinement of the structure.

The structure was solved by isomorphic substitution (Mullica \& Sappenfield, 1989) and refined using full-matrix least squares (SHELXTL-PC;

Sheldrick, 1989). Anisotropic refinement on $F$ of 52 parameters yielded $R=0.016, w R=0.019$ with $w=$ $\left[\sigma^{2}\left(\left|F_{o}\right|\right)+0.0030\left(F_{o}\right)^{2}\right]^{-1}, \quad S=1.61 ; \quad g=8.0(6) \times$ $10^{-7}$, in the form of $F_{o}=\left|F_{c}\right| /\left(1+g I_{c}\right)$ (Stout \& Jensen, 1989); shift/e.s.d. values $(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=1.06 \times$ $10^{-3}$ and $(\Delta / \sigma)_{\mathrm{av}}=3.9 \times 10^{-5}$; max. and min. heights in final difference Fourier synthesis 0.67 (3) and $-0.31 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$. Atomic scattering factors and anomalous-dispersion corrections were taken from International Tables for $X$-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV). Final positional parameters and the equivalent values of the anisotropic displacement parameters are given in Table 1.* Derived interatomic bond distances and angles are listed in Table 2. Fig. 1 presents a view of the coordination geometries about the metal ions whereas Fig. 2 is a stereodrawing of the contents of the unit cell.

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Fig. 1. A projected view of $\mathrm{GdFe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ displaying $50 \%$ thermal probability and showing the eight-coordinated square antiprism geometry about the Gd ion (note parallelism between opposing faces) as well as the octahedral array about the Fe ion. The $\mathrm{GdN}_{6}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{2}$ and $\mathrm{FeC}_{6}$ groups are connected by cyanide bridging.


Fig. 2. A stereoscopic view of the contents of the unit cell. The metal ions ( $\mathrm{Gd}, \mathrm{CN}=8 ; \mathrm{Fe}, \mathrm{CN}=6$ ) are shown fully coordinated. The uncoordinated zeolitic water molecules, $\mathrm{O}(2)$, occupy cavities within the structure.

Related literature. The reinvestigation of $\mathrm{SmCo}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{SmFe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (Mullica \& Sappenfield, 1989), which were originally thought to be in the monoclinic system ( $P 2_{1} / m$ ), has shown that these analogous compounds belong in the higher symmetry orthorhombic system, space group Cmcm , even though both data sets solved equally well in $P 2_{1} / m$. The reinvestigation was motivated due to a private communication (Marsh, 1989a) which was followed by a publication (Marsh, 1989b). The bond lengths and angles as well as the geometric structural arrangement were virtually the same in both Cmcm and $P 2_{1} / m$. For this reason, the title compound, which is situated where a detectable discontinuity among tripositive lanthanide ions in a particular series is usually observed (at the 'gadolinium break'), was investigated. The crystallographic results for $\mathrm{GdFe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ were equivalent in $\mathrm{Cmcm}(R=$ $0.016, w R=0.019, S=1.61)$ and in $P 2_{1} / m(R=$ $0.019, w R=0.023, S=1.92$ ). Hulliger, Landolt \& Vetsch (1973), using magnetic and structural powder data, have correctly described the pseudo-hexagonal $\mathrm{Ln} T(\mathrm{CN})_{6} .4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ series $(\mathrm{Ln}=\mathrm{Sm}, \cdots \mathrm{Lu}$ and $T=\mathrm{Fe}$ and Co ) as having orthorhombic symmetry. Recently, Gramlich, Petter \& Hulliger (1990) have also shown that $\mathrm{ErFe}(\mathrm{CN})_{6} .4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and its analogs
belong in an orthorhombic system rather than in a monoclinic system. The work and conclusions of Hulliger, Landolt \& Vetsch (1973) and those in this laboratory (Mullica \& Sappenfield, 1989, and this paper) are now in direct agreement.

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# Structure of the Second Polymorph of Niobium Pentachloride 

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#### Abstract

NbCl}_{5}, M_{r}=270 \cdot 17\), monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / n$, $a=7.785$ (2), $\quad b=10.201$ (2), $c=8.074$ (2) $\AA, \quad \beta=$ $90 \cdot 58(2)^{\circ}, \quad V=641 \cdot 2(5) \AA^{3}, \quad Z=4, \quad D_{x}=$ $2.80 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}, \quad \lambda($ Mo $K \alpha)=0.71073 \AA, \quad \mu=$ $37.70 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}, F(000)=504, T=294 \mathrm{~K}, R=0.017$ for 1101 observed reflections. Two $\mathrm{NbCl}_{5}$ units form an edge-sharing bioctahedron. The Nb atoms are separated by 3.9881 (3) $\AA$. The mean $\mathrm{Nb}-\mathrm{Cl}_{\text {bridge }}$ distance is $2 \cdot 567$ (1) $\AA$ and the mean non-bridging equatorial and axial $\mathrm{Nb}-\mathrm{Cl}$ bond lengths are $2 \cdot 246$ (2) and $2 \cdot 292$ (1) $\AA$, respectively. The Nb $\mathrm{Cl}_{\text {bridge }}-\mathrm{Nb}$ angle is $101.93(2)^{\circ}$ and the $\mathrm{Cl}_{\text {bridge }}$ -$\mathrm{Nb}-\mathrm{Cl}_{\text {bridge }}$ angle is 78.07 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$.


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Experimental. A Pyrex tube evacuated to $2.67 \times$ $10^{-2} \mathrm{~Pa}$ containing $\mathrm{Nb}(0.50 \mathrm{~g}, 5 \cdot 4 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{S}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ $(0.43 \mathrm{~mL}, 5.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\mathrm{S}(0.18 \mathrm{~g}, 5.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ was heated at 698 K for 48 h . Upon slow cooling several light yellow octahedral crystals of $\mathrm{NbCl}_{5}$ formed on the walls of the tube. The quality of the crystals was confirmed by polarized light microscopy. An irregularly shaped crystal, $0.600 \times 0.40 \times 0.30 \mathrm{~mm}$, was sealed with epoxy cement in a glass capillary filled with degassed mineral oil under argon. Unit-cell dimensions were determined from least-squares analysis of 25 reflections with $20<2 \theta<30^{\circ}$. Laue class and unit-cell dimensions were confirmed with axial photographs. Intensity data were collected to $\sin \theta / \lambda=0.596 \AA^{-1}(0 \leq h \leq 9 ; 0 \leq k \leq 12 ;-9 \leq l \leq$
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[^0]:    * Lists of structure factors and anisotropic thermal parameters have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 54307 ( 15 pp .). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

