

The data were corrected for absorption using XABS, a program which provides an empirical correction based on F_o and F_c differences (Hope & Moezzi, 1988).

The absolute configuration was determined by a routine in *SHELXTL-Plus* (Sheldrick, 1989). The method is similar to that suggested by Rogers (1981).

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters, H-atom coordinates, and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 54914 (12 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: AB1000]

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SHORT COMMUNICATION

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Structure of $MgCl_2 \cdot NH_4Cl \cdot 6H_2O$: amplification and apology. By RICHARD E. MARSH, *The Beckman Institute, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125, USA*

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In a recent paper [Marsh (1992). *Acta Cryst.* **C48**, 218–219] correcting the reported structure of $MgCl_2 \cdot RbCl \cdot 6H_2O$, I noted that the structure of the corresponding ammonium compound $MgCl_2 \cdot NH_4Cl \cdot 6H_2O$ should also be corrected from triclinic, space group $P1$ [Nakayasu, Suzukawa & Kobayashi (1983). *Denki Kagaku*, **51**, 419–422], to monoclinic, $C2/c$. In fact, the correct $C2/c$ structure had been reported in that same year by Solans, Font-Altaba, Aguiló, Solans & Domenech [*Acta Cryst.* (1983), **C39**, 1488–1490]. Also in that year, *Structure Reports* [(1983), Vol. A, edited

by Ferguson & Trotter, pp. 120–121. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers] had already noted that the triclinic structure reported by Nakayasu *et al.* (1983) could be transformed to $C2/c$, so as to agree with the results of Solans *et al.* I apologize both to Solans *et al.* and to the editors of *Structure Reports* for the oversights. They were brought to my attention by Professor J. Trotter, to whom I am much indebted.

All relevant information is given in the *Abstract*.