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### Short Communications

*Contributions intended for publication under this heading should be expressly so marked; they should not exceed about 500 words; they should be forwarded in the usual way to the appropriate Co-editor; they will be published as speedily as possible; and proofs will not generally be submitted to authors. Publication will be quicker if the contributions are without illustrations.*

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**Some lattice constants.** By J. W. MENARY, *Research Department, African Explosives and Chemical Industries Limited, P. O. Northrand, Transvaal, South Africa*

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During analytical work involving the identification of crystalline compounds by X-ray diffraction analysis, powder patterns were obtained with a Berthold diffractometer for compounds of high purity (generally AR grade). Since the diffractometer measures spacings with high precision, accurate lattice constants were calculated from the data available for crystals having orthorhombic or higher symmetry. These figures are reported in Table 1;

powder data are being submitted to the A.S.T.M. for prospective inclusion in their *Index of Diffraction Patterns*. Some idea of the accuracy attained may be seen where standard deviations are reported.

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Table 1

Compound	Temperature (°C.)	System*	Lattice constants
Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	24	C	$a = 7.590 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$
Pb(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	26	C	$a = 7.853 \pm 0.002 \text{ \AA}$
FeS <sub>2</sub> (pyrite)	26	C	$a = 5.417 \pm 0.002 \text{ \AA}$
KAl(SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> · 12H <sub>2</sub> O	24	C	$a = 12.164 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$
(NH <sub>4</sub> )Al(SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> · 12H <sub>2</sub> O	24	C	$a = 12.241 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$
KCr(SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> · 12H <sub>2</sub> O	24	C	$a = 12.204 \pm 0.007 \text{ \AA}$
NaCr(SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> · 12H <sub>2</sub> O	23	C	$a = 12.12 \pm 0.08 \text{ \AA} \dagger$
(NH <sub>4</sub> )Fe(SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> · 12H <sub>2</sub> O	24	C	$a = 12.324 \pm 0.007 \text{ \AA}$
β-Hexachlorocyclohexane	24	C	$a = 10.078 \pm 0.007 \text{ \AA}$
(NH <sub>4</sub> )H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	24	T	$a = 7.510 \pm 0.003$ , $c = 7.564 \pm 0.008 \text{ \AA}$
NaNO <sub>3</sub>	24	R	$a = 6.326 \text{ \AA}$ , $\alpha = 47^\circ 17'$
KBrO <sub>3</sub>	23	R	$a = 4.413 \text{ \AA}$ , $\alpha = 85^\circ 48'$
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	23	O	$a = 6.000 \pm 0.005$ , $b = 10.66 \pm 0.02$ , $c = 7.794 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$
(NH <sub>4</sub> )NO <sub>3</sub> IV	24	O	$a = 5.757$ , $b = 5.451$ , $c = 4.935 \text{ \AA}$
(NH <sub>4</sub> )NO <sub>3</sub> III	>32	O	$a = 7.18$ , $b = 7.71$ , $c = 5.83 \text{ \AA}$
AgNO <sub>3</sub>	23	O	$a = 6.994 \pm 0.004$ , $b = 7.330 \pm 0.004$ , $c = 10.13 \pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$

\* C = cubic, T = tetragonal, R = rhombohedral, O = orthorhombic.

† From low-angle lines only.