

in a series of exposures between each of which the crystal was turned $10'$. The total errors in crystal positions lead to $\Delta\theta = 5'$. No significant errors were to be found in the eccentricity and graduation of the circular scale. The difference between $\theta_{15,0,15}$ and $\theta_{15,0,15}^-$ was only $2'$.

The following direct lattice elements were obtained:

$$a = 14.95 \pm 0.02, \quad b = 7.54 \pm 0.03, \quad c = 15.80 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}; \\ \beta = 102^\circ 13' \pm 7'.$$

They were measured with both $\text{Cu } K\alpha_1$, and $\text{Cu } K\alpha_2$ radiations. The agreement is very good: the differences are smaller than the theoretical errors obtained with $\Delta\theta = 5'$.

The equatorial vectors chosen have approximately the directions of a , c and the normal to the bisector of β^* . Owing to this, the errors in the direct cell constants are of the same order of magnitude as the measured reciprocal vectors.

Systematic extinctions were found for $h0l$ reflexions with $h+l$ odd and for $0k0$ reflexions with k odd. The space group is thus $P2_1/n$, in agreement with the absence of a piezoelectric effect. (We are indebted to Mr J. Baeklund for the use of his apparatus.)

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Unit cell and space group for sodium tetraborate, $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot 4\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$. By J. KROGH-MOE, *Department of Ceramic Technology, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa., U.S.A.*

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Morey & Merwin (1936) have reported two modifications of sodium tetraborate. The stable modification at high temperatures separates at 816°C . from a melt of the stoichiometric composition $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot 4\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$. Single crystals suitable for X-ray work were grown in a platinum crucible at 700°C . from a melt containing an excess of boron oxide. X-ray powder patterns established these crystals as identical with the phase crystallizing at 816°C . from the melt of stoichiometric composition.

Oscillation and Weissenberg exposures around three axes revealed a monoclinic symmetry. The following dimensions for the unit cell were found:

$$a = 6.50, \quad b = 17.80, \quad c = 8.37 \text{ \AA}, \quad \beta = 96.5^\circ.$$

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The crystal structure of urea phosphate. By R. V. G. SUNDERA-RAO, JUNE W. TURLEY and RAY PEPINSKY, *X-Ray and Crystal Analysis Laboratory, Department of Physics, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa., U.S.A.*

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A preliminary analysis, in this laboratory, of the crystal structure of urea phosphate, $\text{OC}(\text{NH}_2)_2 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$, has been reported by Sundera-Rao & Pepinsky (1954). That analysis was based upon (010) and (001) projections. Indications of a very interesting hydrogen-bond system prompted a complete three-dimensional study. Some results of the complete analysis are reported here.

The density was determined by the flotation and the pycnometric methods, both of which gave $1.89 \pm 0.02 \text{ g.cm.}^{-3}$. On the basis of eight formula units per unit cell the calculated density is 1.89 g.cm.^{-3} . The number of formula units in the unit cell indicates that there are either two non-equivalent molecules or a dimeric molecule in the crystalline state. A complete crystal-structure determination has been started at this Institute.

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These figures are estimated to be accurate within 0.5%. With four $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot 4\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$ in the unit cell, the calculated density is 2.35 g.cm.^{-3} . A density of 2.32 g.cm.^{-3} was observed by the flotation method.

Systematic extinctions were observed only in the $0k0$ reflections, the extinctions occurring for $k = 2n + 1$. This is compatible with the space group $P2_1$ or $P2_1/m$.

Reference

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The crystals are orthorhombic with

$$a = 17.68, \quad b = 7.48, \quad c = 9.06 \text{ \AA};$$

the observed density is 1.770 g.cm.^{-3} . With $Z = 8$ molecules per unit cell, the asymmetric unit contains one $\text{OC}(\text{NH}_2)_2 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$. Systematic extinctions indicate space group $Pbca$.