

symmetrical interactions at 95 °K than at 300 °K, a feature which will be of interest in relation to the crystal structures of the aromatic hydrocarbons (Mason, 1961). It also affords an explanation of the temperature dependence of the crystal susceptibilities; the calculated *molecular* susceptibilities are found, as could be intuitively expected, to be temperature independent (Leela, 1962).

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The Crystal Structure of UF₄*

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The crystal structure of UF₄ has been determined from single-crystal X-ray data. The monoclinic unit cell has the dimensions $a=12.73$, $b=10.75$, $c=8.43$ Å and $\beta=126^\circ 20'$; space group $C2/c$. It contains twelve formula units per unit cell. These cell dimensions are identical with those of Shankar, Khubchandani & Padmanabhan (1957). In the least-squares refinement of the structure a secondary extinction parameter and the real and imaginary portions of the anomalous dispersion corrections were used. Normal interatomic distances were observed. Uranium atoms have as neighbors eight fluorine atoms arranged in a slightly distorted antiprism configuration.

Introduction

Two items have renewed our interest in the structure of UF₄; first, the determination of the crystal structure of ZrF₄ by Burbank & Bensey (1956) in which fluorine atom positions are given and, second, a single crystal fragment of UF₄ given to us by W. P. Ellis of this Laboratory for structure analysis. The fragment selected for structure analysis yielded the best optical

extinction figure of several score examined and therefore was the most strain-free sample available.

Crystallographic data

The crystal structure of UF₄ was first described by Zachariasen (1949). A monoclinic unit cell containing twelve formula units, isostructural with ZrF₄ and HfF₄, was proposed. Only the uranium atom positions were given and these only approximately (see Table I). Shankar, Khubchandani & Padmanabhan (1957) used

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Table 1. Uranium atom positions in UF₄

Atom	Position set	Zachariasen	Present work
U(1)	e	$x = 0.000$	$x = 0.0000$
		$y = 0.200$	$y = 0.2126 \pm 0.0002$
		$z = 0.250$	$z = 0.2500$
U(2)	f	$x = 0.208$	$x = 0.2042 \pm 0.0002$
		$y = 0.437$	$y = 0.4281 \pm 0.0002$
		$z \approx -0.17$	$z = 0.8307 \pm 0.0003$

more accurate measurements and found for UF₄: monoclinic,

$$a = 12.73, b = 10.75, c = 8.43 \text{ \AA}; \beta = 126^\circ 20',$$

$Z = 12$, density 6.72 g.cm^{-3} and space group No. 15, $C2/c$. Neither of these references propose any positional parameters for the fluorine atoms.

Experimental

Intensity measurements for reflections with $\theta \leq 20.0^\circ$ were made with a single-crystal orienter on an XRD 5 apparatus, Mo $K\alpha$ radiation and balanced filters being used. The entire hemisphere of the reciprocal lattice was investigated so that most reflections were measured twice. Lorentz-polarization corrections were made in the usual manner. The intensities were also corrected for the effects of absorption. A program to calculate these corrections, which had been written by Burnham (1962) for Weissenberg geometry, was modified for single-crystal orienter geometry and incorporated into our data processing programs. After correction for absorption, equivalent reflections were averaged. An R index formed by comparing individual values of equivalent reflections with their mean values was 3.0% based on F and 5.9% based on F^2 . There were 362 non-equivalent reflections observed out of a possible 435.

Determination of the structure

The initial structure was obtained by combining the uranium atom positions of Zachariasen (1949) with the fluorine atom positions of Burbank & Bensey (1956). This structure refined readily by the least-squares technique. Atomic form factors were used in the functional form given by Forsyth & Wells (1959). In all

least-squares calculations, the function minimized was $\sum w(\Delta F)^2$ and unit weights were used.

In addition to the usual positional and thermal parameters, a secondary extinction correction was included (Cromer, Larson & Roof, 1964). The least-squares program was further altered so that $\Delta f''$, the imaginary portion of the anomalous dispersion correction, could be included in the calculated structure factors.

Table 2. Variation in sum of residuals squared as a function of $\Delta f''$

$\Delta f''$	Σ
-5.0	4.210×10^3
-10.0	4.187×10^3
-15.0	4.191×10^3
-20.0	4.236×10^3

A value of $\Delta f'' = +13.0$ electrons (Roof, 1961), was used throughout the least-squares analysis. As a function of $\Delta f''$ the sum of residuals squared varies as shown in Table 2, indicating that the 'best' solution would occur at approximately $\Delta f'' = -12.5$. Positive thermal parameters occur in the range $\Delta f'' = -10$ to -20 . Negative thermal parameters occur outside this range. The very shallow minimum in Σ as given in Table 2, and the wide range in $\Delta f''$ in which positive thermal parameters occur indicates that this structure is not sensitive to the value of $\Delta f''$.

The final least-squares parameters for $\Delta f'' = -15.0$ are given in Table 3. The final changes as fractions of their standard deviations were $< 1 \times 10^{-3}$ for position parameters, $< 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ for temperature factors and $< 1.5 \times 10^{-2}$ for g . Observed and calculated structure factors, for which $R = 6.6\%$, are given in Table 4.

Discussion of the structure

A view of the structure of UF₄ down the positive b axis is given in Fig. 1. The interatomic distances are listed in Table 5. The standard deviations given in this table have been computed with all correlation terms obtained from the least-squares matrix included. According to the definition of neighbor given by Cromer, Larson and Roof (1964), each atom with its neighbors forms a polyhedron as described in Table 6.

Table 3. Final least-squares parameters for UF₄

The uranium atoms are corrected for the effects of anomalous dispersion with $\Delta f' = -15.0$ and $\Delta f'' = +13.0$. The secondary extinction coefficient $g = (2.63 \pm 0.07) \times 10^{-7}$

Atom	Position set	x	y	z	B
U(1)	e	0.0000	0.2126 ± 0.0002	0.2500	$0.33 \pm 0.08 \text{ \AA}^2$
U(2)	f	0.2042 ± 0.0002	0.4281 ± 0.0002	0.8307 ± 0.0003	0.30 ± 0.07
F(1)	c	0.2500	0.2500	0.0000	2.41 ± 0.78
F(2)	e	0.0000	0.5921 ± 0.0032	0.2500	1.52 ± 0.68
F(3)	f	0.8843 ± 0.0026	0.2973 ± 0.0027	0.9309 ± 0.0039	2.92 ± 0.59
F(4)	f	0.8786 ± 0.0023	0.0525 ± 0.0024	0.0459 ± 0.0034	1.98 ± 0.51
F(5)	f	0.7894 ± 0.0023	0.5298 ± 0.0022	0.8940 ± 0.0034	1.91 ± 0.51
F(6)	f	0.6192 ± 0.0024	0.1178 ± 0.0023	0.7834 ± 0.0037	2.30 ± 0.54
F(7)	f	0.6287 ± 0.0022	0.3491 ± 0.0023	0.6633 ± 0.0033	1.68 ± 0.49

Table 4. Observed and calculated structure factors for UF₄

If |F_o| is negative the minus sign means 'less than'. The terms A and B are as defined in Cromer, Larson & Roof (1964)

h	k	l	F _o	A	B
0	0	0	678	538	-555
0	0	1	17	9	-17
0	0	2	150	151	-149
0	0	3	582	579	-589
0	0	4	782	759	-809
0	0	5	279	286	-291
0	0	6	290	284	-283
0	0	7	96	94	-91
0	0	8	190	167	-166
0	0	9	140	140	-136
0	0	10	239	228	-226
0	0	11	415	395	-388
0	0	12	551	540	-537
0	0	13	644	626	-617
0	0	14	815	785	-778
0	0	15	819	784	-773
0	0	16	151	159	-157
0	0	17	941	924	-909
0	0	18	668	701	-697
0	0	19	247	259	-257
0	0	20	28	31	-29
0	0	21	494	486	-481
0	0	22	596	578	-574
0	0	23	64	70	-69
0	0	24	159	149	-148
0	0	25	159	159	-157
0	0	26	268	268	-265
0	0	27	247	259	-257
0	0	28	28	31	-29
0	0	29	494	486	-481
0	0	30	596	578	-574
0	0	31	64	70	-69
0	0	32	159	149	-148
0	0	33	159	159	-157
0	0	34	268	268	-265
0	0	35	247	259	-257
0	0	36	28	31	-29
0	0	37	494	486	-481
0	0	38	596	578	-574
0	0	39	64	70	-69
0	0	40	159	149	-148
0	0	41	159	159	-157
0	0	42	268	268	-265
0	0	43	247	259	-257
0	0	44	28	31	-29
0	0	45	494	486	-481
0	0	46	596	578	-574
0	0	47	64	70	-69
0	0	48	159	149	-148
0	0	49	159	159	-157
0	0	50	268	268	-265
0	0	51	247	259	-257
0	0	52	28	31	-29
0	0	53	494	486	-481
0	0	54	596	578	-574
0	0	55	64	70	-69
0	0	56	159	149	-148
0	0	57	159	159	-157
0	0	58	268	268	-265
0	0	59	247	259	-257
0	0	60	28	31	-29
0	0	61	494	486	-481
0	0	62	596	578	-574
0	0	63	64	70	-69
0	0	64	159	149	-148
0	0	65	159	159	-157
0	0	66	268	268	-265
0	0	67	247	259	-257
0	0	68	28	31	-29
0	0	69	494	486	-481
0	0	70	596	578	-574
0	0	71	64	70	-69
0	0	72	159	149	-148
0	0	73	159	159	-157
0	0	74	268	268	-265
0	0	75	247	259	-257
0	0	76	28	31	-29
0	0	77	494	486	-481
0	0	78	596	578	-574
0	0	79	64	70	-69
0	0	80	159	149	-148
0	0	81	159	159	-157
0	0	82	268	268	-265
0	0	83	247	259	-257
0	0	84	28	31	-29
0	0	85	494	486	-481
0	0	86	596	578	-574
0	0	87	64	70	-69
0	0	88	159	149	-148
0	0	89	159	159	-157
0	0	90	268	268	-265
0	0	91	247	259	-257
0	0	92	28	31	-29
0	0	93	494	486	-481
0	0	94	596	578	-574
0	0	95	64	70	-69
0	0	96	159	149	-148
0	0	97	159	159	-157
0	0	98	268	268	-265
0	0	99	247	259	-257
0	0	100	28	31	-29

Table 5. Interatomic distances in UF₄

	(Å)	(Å)	
U(1)-2 F(3)	2.354 ± 0.027	F(4)-F(7)	2.722 ± 0.031
-2 F(4)	2.272 ± 0.025	-F(7)	2.776 ± 0.035
-2 F(6)	2.280 ± 0.025	-F(7)	2.916 ± 0.033
-2 F(7)	2.253 ± 0.023	-U(1)	2.272 ± 0.025
		-U(2)	2.288 ± 0.024
U(2)-F(1)	2.249 ± 0.002	F(5)-F(1)	2.681 ± 0.024
-F(2)	2.274 ± 0.004	-F(2)	2.667 ± 0.025
-F(3)	2.273 ± 0.028	-F(3)	2.712 ± 0.036
-F(4)	2.288 ± 0.024	-F(3)	3.673 ± 0.034
-F(5)	2.230 ± 0.023	-F(4)	2.626 ± 0.032
-F(5)	2.318 ± 0.023	-F(4)	2.998 ± 0.032
-F(6)	2.230 ± 0.025	-F(5)	4.582 ± 0.046
-F(7)	2.263 ± 0.024	-F(6)	2.558 ± 0.034
F(1)-2 F(2)	3.083 ± 0.019	-F(6)	2.741 ± 0.033
-2 F(3)	3.003 ± 0.027	-F(7)	2.650 ± 0.033
-2 F(5)	2.681 ± 0.024	-F(7)	3.702 ± 0.034
-2 F(7)	2.817 ± 0.023	-U(2)	2.230 ± 0.023
-2 U(2)	2.249 ± 0.002	-U(2)	2.318 ± 0.023
F(2)-2 F(1)	3.083 ± 0.019	F(6)-F(2)	2.640 ± 0.039
-2 F(3)	2.927 ± 0.032	-F(3)	2.601 ± 0.036
-2 F(5)	2.667 ± 0.025	-F(3)	2.842 ± 0.037
-2 F(6)	2.640 ± 0.039	-F(3)	3.419 ± 0.036
-2 F(7)	3.961 ± 0.034	-F(4)	2.763 ± 0.034
-2 U(2)	2.274 ± 0.004	-F(5)	2.559 ± 0.034
		-F(5)	2.742 ± 0.033
F(3)-F(1)	3.003 ± 0.027	-F(6)	2.739 ± 0.047
-F(2)	2.927 ± 0.032	-F(6)	4.254 ± 0.050
-F(4)	2.820 ± 0.038	-F(7)	2.714 ± 0.035
-F(5)	2.712 ± 0.036	-U(1)	2.280 ± 0.025
-F(6)	2.601 ± 0.036	-U(2)	2.231 ± 0.025
-F(6)	2.842 ± 0.037	F(7)-F(1)	2.817 ± 0.023
-F(6)	3.419 ± 0.036	-F(2)	3.961 ± 0.034
-F(7)	2.700 ± 0.034	-F(3)	2.670 ± 0.034
-F(7)	2.962 ± 0.036	-F(4)	2.722 ± 0.031
-U(1)	2.354 ± 0.027	-F(4)	2.776 ± 0.035
-U(2)	2.273 ± 0.028	-F(4)	2.916 ± 0.033
F(4)-F(3)	2.820 ± 0.038	-F(5)	2.650 ± 0.033
-F(4)	2.965 ± 0.046	-F(5)	3.702 ± 0.034
-F(4)	3.776 ± 0.044	-F(6)	2.714 ± 0.035
-F(5)	2.626 ± 0.032	-U(1)	2.253 ± 0.023
-F(5)	2.998 ± 0.033	-U(2)	2.263 ± 0.024
-F(6)	2.763 ± 0.031		

Table 6. Description of polyhedra in UF₄

Atom	Neighboring atoms	Polyhedron description
U(1)	8 F	8 three-sided and 2 four-sided faces
U(2)	8 F	10 three-sided faces and 1 four-sided face
F(1)	8 F and 2 U	12 three-sided and 2 four-sided faces
F(2)	10 F and 2 U	20 three-sided faces
F(3)	10 F and 2 U	16 three-sided and 2 four-sided faces
F(4)	9 F and 2 U	18 three-sided faces
F(5)	11 F and 2 U	18 three-sided and 2 four-sided faces
F(6)	10 F and 2 U	20 three-sided faces
F(7)	10 F and 2 U	16 three-sided and 2 four-sided faces

There exists a basic repeating unit consisting of five uranium atoms arranged in a distorted pyramid with

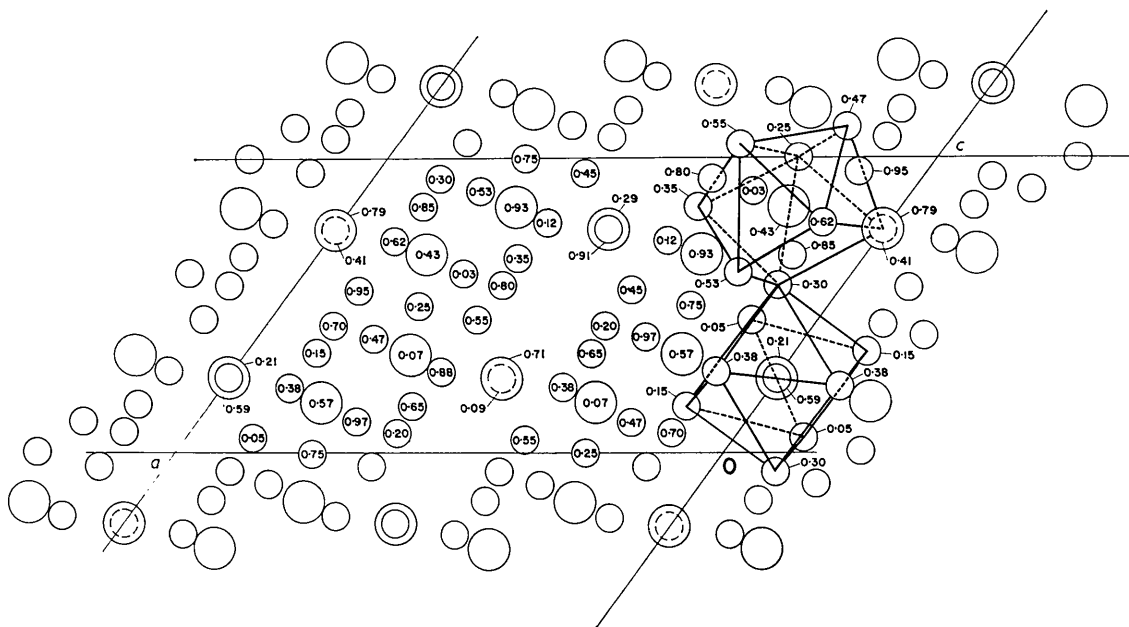


Fig. 1. The structure of UF_4 viewed down the positive b axis. Large circles are uranium atoms, small circles are fluorine atoms. Numbers represent the positional parameter y as a fraction of the unit-cell edge. The slightly distorted antiprisms about U(1) ($y=0.21$) and about U(2) ($y=0.43$) are also shown.

four atoms forming a rhomb-shaped base and the fifth comprising the apex of the pyramid. On approximately each edge of this pyramid there is a fluorine atom. Also, the eight fluorine atoms which are neighbors to U(1) (and the eight fluorine atoms which are neighbors to U(2)) are arranged in a slightly distorted antiprism configuration.

There is no significant difference between the structure of UF_4 refined in this paper and the structure of ZrF_4 given by Burbank & Bensey; this leads to the conclusion that these materials are isostructural.

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