

the observed $|F_0|$ values are compared with the calculated F_c values in Table 2. The density of the compound was found by the displacement method (in water and in air) to be 7.39 g.cm^{-3} . This value compares favorably with the calculated value, 7.36 g.cm^{-3} , based on four $\text{Gd}_6\text{Mn}_{23}$ units per unit cell. This then, adds another member to the family of A_6B_{23} -type compounds which includes $\text{Th}_6\text{Mn}_{23}$ (Florio *et al.*, 1952), $\text{Sr}_6\text{Li}_{23}$ (Wang, King & Kanda, 1962) and $\text{Sr}_6\text{Mg}_{23}$, $\text{Ba}_6\text{Mg}_{23}$ (Gladyshevskii, Kripyakevich, Kuzma & Teslyuk, 1962; Wang, Kanda, Miskell & King, 1963).

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The crystal data for sodium carbonate decahydrate. By H. S. DUNSMORE and J. C. SPEAKMAN, *Chemistry Department, The University, Glasgow, W. 2, Scotland*

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Dr J. W. Visser (of Technisch-Physische Dienst T.N.O. en T.H., Delft) has kindly informed us of the results of his accurate determination of the crystal data for $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 10 \text{H}_2\text{O}$. This has drawn our attention to a mistake in transcription which led to errors in the b parameter and space-group symbol reported by us (Dunsmore & Speakman, 1963), as well as to a possible source of confusion affecting the crystal data for this substance. Because it is pseudo-hexagonal, there are three very similar choices of a and c axes. These are listed in Table 1 on the basis of our own (corrected) measurements. Cell (i), which has the value of β nearest to 90° , is that chosen by Visser, whose parameters are given in the last column. Cell (ii) is the one adopted in our note, with an emendation of space-group symbol. Cell (iii) corresponds most closely with the axial ratios

and β value recorded by Groth (Vol. II, 1908), as is seen by comparing the figures in columns 5 and 6. (We have chosen the centrosymmetric space group No. 15, instead of No. 9, because the goniometric data imply the point group $2/m$.) D_x is now 1.460.

We are indebted to Dr Visser for permission to publish his results for the decahydrate, and also parameters for $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($a = 19.498$, $b = 7.0157$, $c = 14.483 \text{ \AA}$) which agree well with our own.

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Table 1. *Crystal data for $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$, with translations in \AA*

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	Ratios		Visser
				(iii)	(Groth)	
a	12.761	12.571	12.761	1.4165	1.4186	12.754
b	9.009	9.009	9.009	1	1	9.009
c	12.571	13.470	13.470	1.4951	1.4828	12.597
β	$115^\circ 46'$	$121^\circ 26'$	$122^\circ 48'$	—	$122^\circ 20'$	$115^\circ 51'$
S.G.	$C2/c$	$I2/a$	$C2/c$			$C2/c$