

# The Crystal Structure of Tutton's Salts. I. Zinc Ammonium Sulfate Hexahydrate

BY H. MONTGOMERY AND E. C. LINGAFELTER

Department of Chemistry, University of Washington, Seattle 5, Washington, U. S. A.

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Zinc ammonium sulfate hexahydrate  $\text{Zn}(\text{NH}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (a Tutton salt) is monoclinic:

$$a = 9.28, b = 12.57, c = 6.25 \text{ \AA}, \beta = 106.8^\circ,$$

space group  $P2_1/a$ , two molecules per unit cell. The atomic positions have been determined by three-dimensional Fourier and least-squares refinement of X-ray diffraction data. The zinc ion lies at a centre of symmetry surrounded by a slightly distorted octahedron of water molecules, ( $\text{Zn}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  2.12 Å and 2.07 Å) and the sulfate ion ( $\text{S}-\text{O}$  1.48 Å,  $\text{O}-\text{S}-\text{O}$  109.4°) is bonded to the water molecules of the hexa-aquozinc ion by a series of hydrogen bonds varying in length from 2.72 Å to 2.85 Å.

## Introduction

As part of a series of studies of octahedral arrangements of ligands about metals of the first transition group, a study has been begun on the double salts of ammonium sulfate with divalent transition metal sulfates (Tutton's salts). These salts were examined crystallographically by Hofmann (1931), but in the light of recent theoretical developments it has become of interest to investigate in detail the actual bond lengths and angles in the coordination polyhedra of the transition elements. The isomorphous Tutton salts, which have an octahedral arrangement of water molecules about the metal ion, should prove an excellent source of comparisons. This investigation reports the results for zinc ammonium sulfate hexahydrate, which was the first salt of this series to be examined in detail.

## Experimental

Crystals of zinc ammonium sulfate hexahydrate in a rod-like habit elongated in the  $c$  axis direction were obtained by quick cooling of a water solution of the salt. Individual crystals were grown to a suitable size in a slowly evaporating solution. The cell dimensions were determined from rotation and zero-level Weissenberg photographs ( $\text{Cu } K\alpha$  radiation) about the  $c$  axis, with superimposed reflections from sodium chloride ( $a_0 = 5.6387 \text{ \AA}$ ) for calibration. The angle  $\beta$  was measured from the  $a^*c^*$  net precession photograph ( $\text{Mo } K\alpha$  radiation). The results are:

$$a = 9.27_9 \pm 0.012, b = 12.56_8 \pm 0.015, c = 6.25_3 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}, \\ \beta = 106^\circ 49' \pm 6', Z = 2.$$

Systematic absences ( $h0l$  absent when  $h$  is odd and  $0k0$  absent when  $k$  is odd) indicate the space group  $P2_1/a$ . This confirms Hofmann's data:

$$a = 9.205, b = 12.475, c = 6.227 \text{ kX}, \beta = 106^\circ 52'.$$

Intensities were obtained from five levels ( $hk0$  through  $hk4$ ) on a Nonius integrating Weissenberg camera, integrating in one direction only. The diffraction patterns were recorded by the multiple film technique (Kodak medical X-ray film) and the intensities were measured by a microphotometer of the Moll type, whose output was fed into a Leeds & Northrup recorder equipped with a logarithmic slide wire. The intensity of each reflection was taken to be proportional to the area under the photometer tracing. Intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization factors in the usual manner. In all, 1066 reflections were used, of which 206 had intensities less than the minimum observed value. The intensities of the remainder varied from 1 to 450.

The observed intensities were corrected for absorption essentially by the method of Bond (1959), programmed for the IBM 709. The crystal was of a regular hexagonal cross section, the diagonals of which did not differ by more than 0.02 mm. Accordingly it was treated as a cylinder ( $\mu = 61.52 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $\mu R = 0.83$ ) and a correction was applied to each reflection from Bond's table.

All calculations except the final least-squares refinement were made with an IBM 650 computer (Brown, Lingafelter, Stewart & Jensen, 1959). The least-squares refinement was carried out with the Busing & Levy full-matrix program with a 704 simulator on an IBM 709.

Scattering factors for zinc were from Thomas & Umeda (1957) and for all other atoms from Berghuis, Haanappel, Potters, Loopstra, MacGillavry & Veenendaal (1955).

## Determination and refinement of the structure

The space group requires that the zinc atoms be at 0, 0, 0 and  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$  and it was assumed that the other atoms were in the fourfold positions for the space

group. The original parameters given by Hofmann for the magnesium salt were modified for the sulfate oxygen atoms to allow for a more reasonable value of the S-O bond distance (1.5 in place of 1.6 Å) and a series of electron-density projections on [001] were calculated. The refinement did not proceed readily below an  $R$  value of 0.25. The Hofmann parameters were therefore abandoned and a three-dimensional Patterson function calculated. From this, the position of sulfur (coincident with Hofmann's)

was deduced. A three-dimensional Fourier synthesis was calculated with the use of phases determined only by the zinc and sulfur atoms. All atoms were located in this summation, but two (N and O(6)), which had low electron densities, were omitted from the next calculation. Two calculations were made — one using the measured intensities and one using intensities corrected for absorption. Agreement in the latter case was moderately better, and the uncorrected intensities were not used again. After the

Table 1. *Final atomic coordinates*

	$\sigma_x \times 10^4$	$x/a$	$\sigma_y \times 10^4$	$y/b$	$\sigma_z \times 10^4$	$z/c$
Zn(1)		0.000		0.000		0.000
S(2)	2.2	0.4073	1.5	0.1372	4.5	0.7400
O(3)	8.1	0.4120	5.2	0.2278	13.1	0.5917
O(4)	8.0	0.5476	6.1	0.0768	15.9	0.7853
O(5)	6.7	0.2794	5.0	0.0671	13.1	0.6240
O(6)	7.8	0.3857	5.3	0.1778	13.4	0.9489
O(7)	6.8	0.1723	4.9	0.1080	12.2	0.1683
O(8)	6.7	-0.1629	4.7	0.1113	13.1	0.0351
O(9)	7.1	-0.0007	4.9	-0.0676	12.5	0.3024
N(10)	9.4	0.1366	6.7	0.3454	17.8	0.3605
N	{	H(11)		0.050		0.227
		H(12)		0.203		0.354
		H(13)		0.101		0.397
		H(14)		0.144		0.307
O(7)	{	H(15)		0.173		0.290
		H(16)		0.239		0.095
O(8)	{	H(17)		-0.243		-0.020
		H(18)		-0.145		0.040
O(9)	{	H(19)		-0.099		0.350
		H(20)		0.017		0.339

Table 2

(a) Anisotropic temperature parameters ( $\times 10^2$ )

	$\beta^{11}$	$\beta^{22}$	$\beta^{33}$	$\beta^{12}$	$\beta^{13}$	$\beta^{23}$
Zn(1)	0.358	0.217	1.63	-0.019	0.057	0.019
S(2)	0.172	0.121	1.62	-0.034	-0.008	-0.013
O(3)	0.975	0.220	2.15	-0.186	0.502	0.105
O(4)	0.449	0.388	3.97	0.130	0.135	-0.154
O(5)	0.268	0.239	2.64	-0.145	0.110	-0.043
O(6)	0.828	0.263	1.99	-0.090	0.184	-0.264
O(7)	0.432	0.305	1.30	-0.157	0.069	-0.127
O(8)	0.318	0.208	2.50	-0.009	0.309	-0.062
O(9)	0.534	0.210	1.77	0.025	0.082	0.130
N(10)	0.498	0.285	2.59	0.129	-0.246	0.132
*H(11)	0.792	0.396	1.74	0.000	0.340	0.000
H(15)	0.634	0.317	1.40	0.000	0.272	0.000

(b) Standard deviations of temperature factors ( $\times 10^4$ )

	$\beta^{11}$	$\beta^{22}$	$\beta^{33}$	$\beta^{12}$	$\beta^{13}$	$\beta^{23}$
Zn(1)	1.67	0.8	6.9	0.9	2.5	1.7
S(2)	2.2	1.0	10.8	1.2	3.5	2.3
O(3)	10.0	3.9	30.4	4.9	13.4	7.9
O(4)	8.9	4.9	37.6	5.2	14.0	10.0
O(5)	7.6	3.8	31.3	4.0	11.6	7.7
O(6)	9.4	4.2	33.3	4.9	13.8	8.4
O(7)	7.8	4.1	27.6	4.3	11.0	7.2
O(8)	7.3	3.8	31.0	3.9	11.4	7.4
O(9)	8.5	3.7	30.0	4.3	11.8	7.1
N(10)	10.5	5.4	39.6	5.8	15.8	10.7

\* Isotropic T.F. in anisotropic form. Not refined.



third Fourier summation ( $R=0.16$ ) a change was made to the least-squares program of refinement in order to allow for use of anisotropic temperature factors. A modified Hughes weighting scheme was used, with  $w=0$  for unobserved reflections for which  $F_c < F_{\min}$ ,  $w=1$  for unobserved reflections where  $F_c > F_{\min}$ ,  $w=1$  for observed reflections for which  $f_o < 30$  and  $w=30/F_o$  for  $F_o > 30$ . The function minimized was  $\Sigma w(F_o - F_c)^2$ . After four cycles of least-squares refinement, parameters were selected, the bond lengths and angles calculated and estimates of the accuracy were made. At this stage  $R$  was 0.10 for 1066 reflections. A three-dimensional  $F_o - F_c$  synthesis based on these parameters was calculated and a self consistent set of hydrogen atomic positions were taken from this summation. Refinement was then continued but each hydrogen atom was given an averaged isotropic temperature factor (which was not refined) to correspond to the type of atom to which it was joined. After five further cycles, the changes in parameters were insignificant and a final selection of parameters was made (Tables 1 and 2). The  $R$  value (including hydrogen atoms) was 0.085 and the final values of calculated and observed structure factors are given in Table 3. No great accuracy can be claimed for the hydrogen parameters, and their bond lengths and angles are not listed.

The average shifts in the final cycle were  $\overline{\delta x} = 0.000002$ ,  $\overline{\delta y} = 0.0000013$ ,  $\overline{\delta z} = 0.000056$ , and the maximum shifts (for nitrogen) were  $\delta x = 0.000085$ ,  $\delta y = 0.000055$ ,  $\delta z = 0.00030$ .

### Discussion

The main points of interest are the regularity and dimensions of the zinc coordination polyhedron. Bond lengths and angles are given in Table 4. The water molecules are arranged in a nearly regular octahedron about the zinc ion, the Zn-O bonds are of the expected length and the angles do not differ significantly from  $90^\circ$ . The S-O bond distances of  $1.48 \text{ \AA}$ , and the O-S-O bond angles of  $109.4^\circ$ , are also normal.

Table 4. Bond lengths and angles with estimated standard deviation in parenthesis for each bond type

Bond length ( $\text{\AA}$ )		Bond angle ( $^\circ$ )	
Zn-O(7)	2.129 (0.012)	O(9)-Zn-O(7)	89.1 (0.04)
Zn-O(8)	2.117	O(8)-Zn-O(7)	90.6
Zn-O(9)	2.075	O(8)-Zn-O(9)	89.2
S-O(3)	1.477 (0.015)	O(3)-S-O(4)	109.6 (0.6)
S-O(4)	1.462	O(3)-S-O(5)	108.3
S-O(5)	1.488	O(3)-S-O(6)	109.1
S-O(6)	1.469	O(4)-S-O(5)	109.1
		O(4)-S-O(6)	110.5
		O(5)-S-O(6)	110.1

The length of the equatorial Zn-O bonds,  $2.123 \text{ \AA}$  is, within limits, the sum of the ionic radii of zinc

and oxygen (Pauling, 1960). The axial bond Zn-O(9) (Fig. 1) is shorter by  $0.048 \text{ \AA}$ , which is four times the standard deviation. It is possible that this shortening is a consequence of the rather close approach of atoms O(9) and O(9'). Other measurements of the Zn-H<sub>2</sub>O bond in the hexa-aquo ion give  $2.08 \text{ \AA}$  (Broomhead & Nicol, 1948) and  $2.09 \text{ \AA}$  (Hargreaves, 1957). In dihydrate salts of zinc, two Zn-H<sub>2</sub>O values are available:  $2.06 \text{ \AA}$  (Klug, Alexander & Sumner, 1958) and  $2.14 \text{ \AA}$  (van Niekerk, Schoening & Talbot, 1953). The hexa-aquo ion is joined to the sulfate groups by a series of hydrogen bonds, two for each water molecule (Table 5).

The structure given by Hofmann is almost the same as that given above, with the exception that the water octahedron and the sulfate tetrahedron are both tilted considerably (about  $20^\circ$ ) relative to the

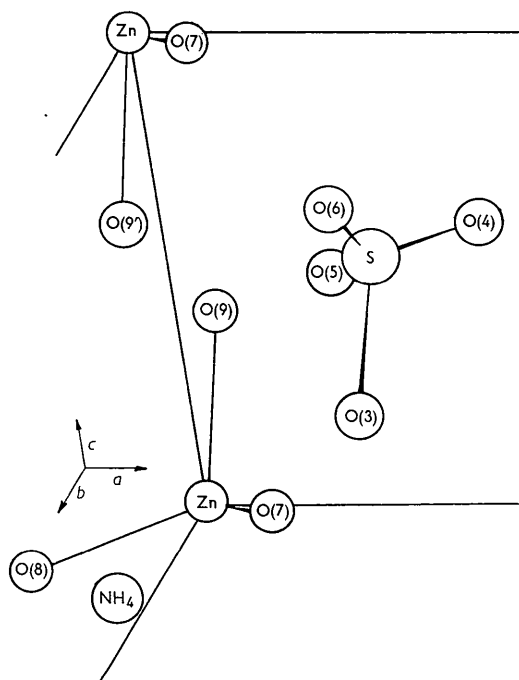


Fig. 1. Numbering of atoms.

Table 5. Intermolecular distances

Bond	Relative position of second atom*			Bond length ( $\text{\AA}$ )
	$x$	$y$	$z$	
O(5)-O(7)	$x$	$y$	$z$	2.781 (0.027)
O(6)-O(7)	$x$	$y$	$z+1$	2.854
O(4)-O(8)	$x+1$	$y$	$z+1$	2.723
O(6)-O(8)	$x+\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	$z+1$	2.768
O(3)-O(9')	$x+\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	$z+1$	2.723
O(5)-O(9')	$x$	$y$	$z+1$	2.755
O(9)-O(9')	$x$	$y$	$z+1$	2.996
O(3)-N(10)	$x$	$y$	$z$	2.944

\* This is the transformation relating each 'second atom' to the corresponding atom in the original asymmetric unit. O(9') is -O(9).

present structure. Calculations based on data collected for the magnesium salt in this Laboratory (Montgomery & Lingafelter, to be published) and an independent structure determination by Margulis & Templeton (1962) show that the structure of this salt is essentially identical with the zinc compound.

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## The Interpretation of Pseudo-Orthorhombic Diffraction Patterns

BY J. D. DUNITZ

*Organic Chemistry Laboratory, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zürich, Switzerland*

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Diffraction diagrams with pseudo-orthorhombic Laue symmetry may be produced by monoclinic crystals as a result of twinning. In such cases, the systematic absences often follow selection rules that are not characteristic of any orthorhombic space group. Various examples are discussed. In particular, it is shown that the absences may follow pseudo-selection rules. Monoclinic structures in which the projections down three mutually perpendicular axes have perfect rectangular symmetry constitute a special class of pseudo-orthorhombic structures and are said to be para-orthorhombic. The systematic absences and Laue symmetries of para-orthorhombic structures are discussed and examples are given.

### Introduction

During the last few years, five crystals examined in the author's laboratory have been found to give X-ray photographs with *mmm* symmetry but with systematic absences that do not correspond to any orthorhombic space group. Crystallographic data are given in Table I. More detailed examination has shown that each of these crystals is in fact monoclinic with all interaxial angles of a non-primitive unit cell exactly 90°. As we shall see, the unusual features of the X-ray diagrams are sometimes due simply to twinning, but it is sometimes necessary to invoke special 'para-orthorhombic' relationships between different sets of representative points in the monoclinic structures as well.

Table I. *Crystallographic data for five pseudo-orthorhombic crystals*

I. 1-Anilino-4-chloropyromellitic acid diphenylimide,	
$C_{24}H_{16}N_3O_4Cl$	
$a = 14.7 \text{ \AA}$	(1) $hkl : h + k = 2n$
$b = 12.3$	(2) $hk0 : h = 2n \ (k = 2n)$
$c = 26.6$	(3) $hkl : \text{if } h, k = 2n, h + k + 2l = 4n$
$Z = 8$	
II. Cycloundecylamine hydrobromide, $C_{11}H_{21}NH_3^+Br^-$	
$a = 65 \text{ \AA}$	(1) $hkl : h + k = 2n$
$b = 9.75$	(2) $hk0 : h = 2n \ (k = 2n), h + k = 4n$
$c = 8.15$	(3) $h0l : h = 4n$
	(4) $0kl : k = 4n, l = 2n$
$Z = 16$	(5) $hkl : \text{if } h, k = 2n, h + k = 4n$
	(6) All reflexions with $h, k$ odd are weak