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### Sodium Silicate Hydrates. III. The Crystal Structure of $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and of the Isostructural $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

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(Received 17 August 1966)

A new sodium germanate hydrate, of oxide formula  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , has been prepared and found to be isostructural with the silicate  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . A complete structure analysis of both compounds has been carried out with three-dimensional data, with a view to extending the structural knowledge of sodium silicate hydrates, comparing interatomic bond distances and investigating the hydrogen bond systems. The silicon and germanium atoms are each surrounded tetrahedrally by four oxygen atoms. The tetrahedra being interconnected by fairly short hydrogen bonds. At least some of the hydrogen atoms seem to show a statistical distribution such that between two and three are associated with each silicon-oxygen or germanium-oxygen tetrahedron. The sodium atoms are in approximately octahedral coordination, the octahedra alternately sharing faces and corners to form sheets.

#### Introduction

A previous structural study of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Jamieson & Dent Glasser, 1966b) has shown that this compound contains  $(\text{H}_2\text{SiO}_4)^{2-}$  groups. As a continuation of work in this field, the structure of the hexahydrate was next investigated, to find if the anions differed and to compare bond distances.

As silicon, sodium and oxygen do not differ greatly in scattering power, it was thought that if an isostructural germanate could be prepared the structure determination would be simplified, because of the presence of the comparatively heavy germanium atom. Prior to this study, only one sodium germanate hydrate was known –  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Pugh, 1926; Nowotny & Szekely, 1952) – for which there is no corresponding silicate. Weight-loss determinations on  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Schwarz & Heinrich, 1932) suggest the existence of a hexahydrate.

#### Experimental

The  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  crystals used in this study were prepared as described in part I (Jamieson & Dent Glasser, 1966a). The crystals did not have very regular geometrical forms; the one selected for intensity measurement was not greater than 0.3 mm in its longest dimension.

For preparation of the germanate hydrate, mixtures of sodium hydroxide and germanium dioxide were first fused in a platinum crucible at 1250°C.  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} : \text{GeO}_2$  molar ratios were (i) 1.36:1 (ii) 1.57:1 and (iii) 1.84:1. The quenched material was divided into portions, a different volume of water being added to each. Many of the preparations yielded crystals of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$  as identified by X-ray single-crystal and powder photographs and checked by chemical analysis. One solution [4.5 g of melt (ii) in 8 ml of water] which for the silicate series would be expected to yield  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was seeded with crystals of this. In a short time, very large clear crystals had grown, but as soon as these were handled in any way, they turned cloudy,

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and on closer examination were found to consist of a great many very tiny needles of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , together with water. Careful analysis of the original crystals before complete decomposition gave the ratio  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} : \text{GeO}_2 : \text{H}_2\text{O}$  as 1:1:9.3. This is thought to indicate the possible metastable existence of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Solutions seeded with sodium silicate penta- and octahydrate yielded either the heptahydrate or no crystals at all.

Crystals of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  grew from only one solution [4.26 g of melt (i) dissolved in 5 ml of water] which for the silicate series would not be expected to yield  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The solution had not been seeded. The composition of the crystals was checked by standard chemical analysis, and their refractive indices were measured. Rotation and Weissenberg photographs strongly indicated that the crystals were isostructural with  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Table 1). The crystals readily absorbed water on standing in air to yield the heptahydrate in the form of a powder. The crystal used for intensity measurements (approximately  $0.3 \times 0.2 \times 0.2$  mm) was protected by a thin layer of petroleum jelly and showed no signs of decomposition after a period of six months.

Intensity data for the (010) projection of the silicate were estimated visually, and later complete three-dimensional data were obtained using a Hilger & Watts automatic linear diffractometer with  $\text{Mo } K\alpha$  radiation. Data for the germanate were initially estimated visually from  $h0l$ ,  $h1l \dots h5l$  Weissenberg photographs, using the multiple film pack technique and  $\text{Cu } K\alpha$  radiation, but were later remeasured on the diffractometer with  $\text{Mo } K\alpha$  radiation; the intensities measured in the two ways were in fair agreement.

The relative intensities, corrected for Lorentz and polarization factors, were converted to an approximately absolute scale by Wilson's statistical method which gave also an approximate value for the overall temperature factor. No corrections were made for absorption or extinction.

All processing of data and crystallographic calculations were performed on an Elliott 803 computer, using the programs of Daly, Stephens & Wheatley (1963), whose kindness in making them available is gratefully acknowledged. Structure factors were calculated with scattering factors taken from *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1962) for  $\text{Na}^+$ , Si,  $\text{Ge}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{O}^-$  and O. (It was assumed that the Ge-O bond had more ionic character than Si-O.)

#### Crystallographic data

The unit cells of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (as refined on the linear diffractometer) are given in Table 1 along with the unit cell of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , included for comparison.

Refractive indices determined for  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were  $\alpha = 1.493$  and  $\gamma = 1.509$ , and the density (measured by the suspension method)  $2.05 (\pm 0.05) \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ . The X-ray density, for  $Z=2$ , is  $2.08 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ .

#### Structure determination

Initially, an attempt was made to solve the (010) projection (which has the centrosymmetrical plane space group  $p2$ ) of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  by direct methods. The authors acknowledge the help of Prof. M. M. Woolfson and Dr G. Germain, both formerly of the Manchester College of Science & Technology, in this part of the work. Unitary structure factors were calculated from the photographic intensity data and by means of Harker-Kasper inequalities, 16 signs were determined in terms of four sign symbols. Repeated use of the basic sign relationship

$$s(h, l)s(h', l')s(h+h', l+l') \approx +1$$

extended this to 60 signs in terms of two sign symbols. Fourier syntheses were calculated for all three possible combinations of sign symbols, and the electron density map obtained from the most likely combination is illustrated in Fig. 1(a), together with that for the final, correct structure [Fig. 1(b)]. Six of the signs determined were later proved to be incorrect.

Although the Fourier synthesis [Fig. 1(a)] contained much that was correct, including the locations of the silicon and sodium atoms, it was difficult to recognize any features and refinement proved slow. At this stage the germanate hydrate was prepared and it was decided to concentrate on the determination of this structure.

A two-dimensional Patterson synthesis was calculated from the germanate  $h0l$  intensity data. Although the germanium atom showed up very clearly, determination of other atomic positions was not simple, and attempts at refinement were again unsuccessful. A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis was calculated and used to prepare (graphically) a three-dimensional minimum function based on the germanium atom. By this method, the oxygen atoms forming a tetrahedron round the germanium atom were approximately located, as were another three, out of a possible seven (2Na and 5O) independent atoms.

A three-dimensional Fourier synthesis based on these atomic sites showed the 'ghosting' effect frequently encountered with non-centrosymmetric structures; for each peak at  $(x, y, z)$  there occurred a 'ghost' peak at  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$  whose magnitude was frequently as great as that of the 'true' peaks. Nevertheless, it was found possible to work out a plausible set of atomic positions. Further refinements (including a three-dimensional difference synthesis and several projection refinements) improved these positions and showed also which atoms were sodium and which oxygen.

The germanate structure was finally refined by the method of least squares (diagonal-block approximation), the procedure used closely following that of Cruickshank, Pilling, Bujosa, Lovell & Truter (1961), incorporating the same weighting scheme and method of calculation of the estimated standard deviations. After seven least-squares cycles on the original data

(710 reflexions) the structure was refined as far as the data would permit, to an  $R$  index of 15.9%. The new data now became available, consisting of 1347 reflexions measured largely on the diffractometer; for reflexions whose intensities could not be determined because of the geometrical limitations of the diffractometer, visual data were used. Further refinements were carried out with these data, only isotropic temperature factors being refined in order to economize on computing time. After a further seven cycles, the maximum shift in atomic coordinates was two thirds of the e.s.d. and the average shift only 0.09 of the average e.s.d. With these parameters an  $R$  index of 11.9% was obtained for all 1347 reflexions; all measured reflexions were included, even those too weak to be statistically significant.

Structure factors were next calculated for the  $h0l$  data of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  using the atomic parameters finally obtained for the germanate, except for the oxygen atoms forming a tetrahedron round germanium which were moved closer to the central atom to allow

Table 2. Peaks found on difference synthesis which may correspond to hydrogen atom positions in  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Peak found near oxygen atom	Pointing towards oxygen atom	Hydrogen bond length (silicate)
O(3)	O(2)	2.89 Å
O(5)	O(1)	2.75
O(6)	O(7)	2.76
O(7)	O(1)	2.60
O(9)	O(2)	2.77

Table 1. Unit cell data

	$a$	$b$	$c$	$\beta$	Space group	$Z$
$\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	11.57 Å	5.96 Å	6.39 Å	102.1°	$P2_1$	2
$\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	11.51	6.15	6.36	102.1°	$P2_1$	2
$\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}^*$	6.52	8.44	17.37		$P222_1$	4

\* Nowotny & Szekely (1952).

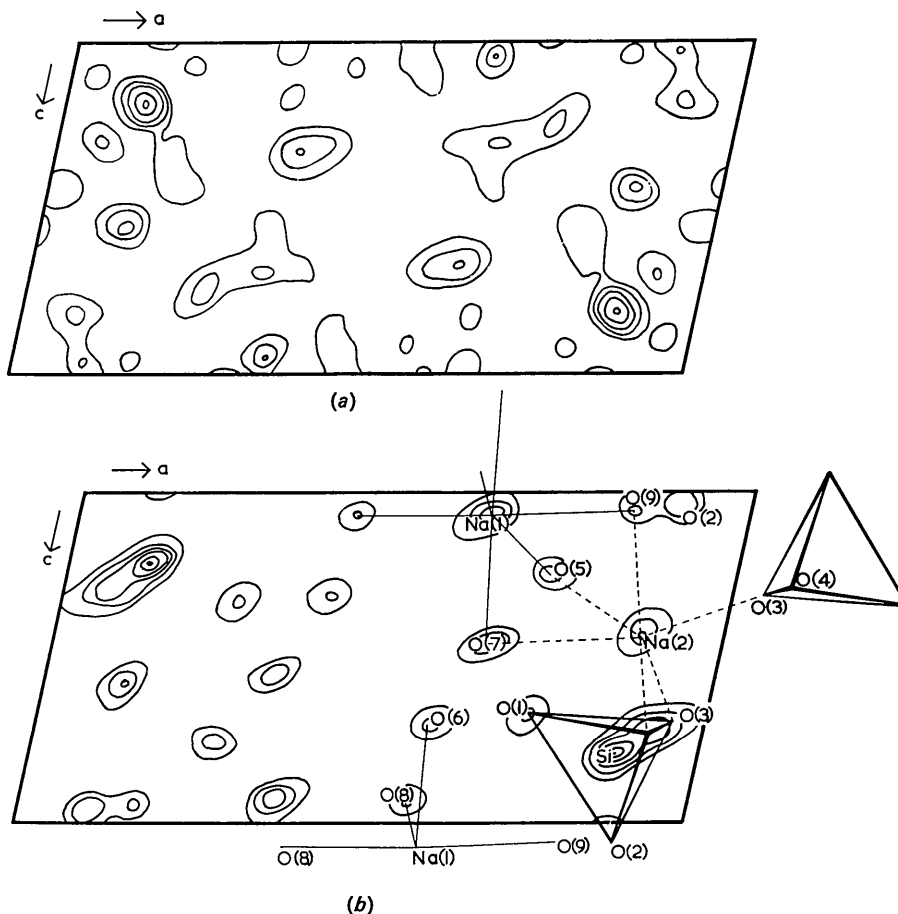


Fig. 1. (a) (010) electron density projection for  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  calculated with signs developed by direct methods. (b) (010) electron density projection for  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  calculated with final signs and complete  $h0l$  data.

Table 3. Observed and calculated structure factors ( $\times 10$ ) for  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 

h	k	l	F <sub>o</sub>	F <sub>c</sub>	F <sub>c</sub>	A	φ	h	k	l	F <sub>o</sub>	F <sub>c</sub>	F <sub>c</sub>	A	φ	h	k	l	F <sub>o</sub>	F <sub>c</sub>	F <sub>c</sub>	A	φ	
1	0	0	46	41	-41	0	0	1	0	0	107	107	107	-24	0	4	1	227	F	193	A	-113	B	165
2	0	0	55	36	-25	0	0	2	0	0	164	172	172	-166	0	5	1	234	F	215	A	-177	B	123
3	0	0	61	17	-17	0	0	3	0	0	296	276	276	-155	0	6	1	214	F	135	A	-193	B	37
4	0	0	220	148	-148	0	0	4	0	0	57	56	56	-36	0	7	1	76	F	73	A	-66	B	30
5	0	0	327	127	-127	0	0	5	0	0	172	171	171	-21	0	8	1	43	F	62	A	-40	B	48
6	0	0	202	176	176	0	0	6	0	0	35	43	41	-13	0	9	1	195	F	189	A	-177	B	-68
7	0	0	243	209	209	0	0	7	0	0	50	42	41	-11	0	10	1	34	F	34	A	-15	B	-15
8	0	0	95	16	-16	0	0	8	0	0	121	122	122	36	0	11	1	117	F	117	A	-41	B	-31
9	0	0	74	26	-26	0	0	9	0	0	88	77	77	-48	0	12	1	44	F	41	A	-41	B	0
10	0	0	59	55	55	0	0	10	0	0	110	101	101	-41	0	13	1	110	F	110	A	61	B	10
11	0	0	83	75	-75	0	0	11	0	0	35	33	33	-28	0	14	1	42	F	51	A	26	B	-43
12	0	0	141	-141	-141	0	0	12	0	0	58	70	-64	27	0	15	1	20	F	10	A	10	B	2
13	0	0	47	28	-28	0	0	13	0	0	35	30	-37	16	0	16	1	135	F	129	A	104	B	76
14	0	0	18	132	132	0	0	14	0	0	113	76	-84	2	0	17	1	349	F	301	A	-248	B	-170
15	0	0	214	253	-253	0	0	15	0	0	169	165	-68	-141	0	18	1	221	F	187	A	-165	B	88
16	0	0	137	163	-163	0	0	16	0	0	21	18	-11	18	0	19	1	197	F	175	A	-24	B	-172
17	0	0	553	509	-509	0	0	17	0	0	192	183	-35	180	0	20	1	225	F	244	A	-243	B	14
18	0	0	247	198	-198	0	0	18	0	0	155	146	22	-145	0	21	1	220	F	195	A	-194	B	-16
19	0	0	74	67	-67	0	0	19	0	0	91	96	1	-96	0	22	1	162	F	158	A	157	B	8
20	0	0	39	37	-37	0	0	20	0	0	129	133	8	-132	0	23	1	99	F	102	A	81	B	63
21	0	0	33	35	35	0	0	21	0	0	31	34	-20	28	0	24	1	49	F	53	A	-49	B	21
22	0	0	59	58	-58	0	0	22	0	0	100	111	-21	109	0	25	1	132	F	228	A	-17	B	-17
23	0	0	12	10	-10	0	0	23	0	0	42	52	-32	42	0	26	1	99	F	117	A	-112	B	-14
24	0	0	83	83	83	0	0	24	0	0	32	308	-47	342	0	27	1	327	F	235	A	285	B	-7
25	0	0	30	19	-19	0	0	25	0	0	147	128	-105	-73	0	28	1	160	F	143	A	138	B	-37
26	0	0	45	59	59	0	0	26	0	0	219	219	-55	-212	0	29	1	113	F	130	A	-141	B	112
27	0	0	43	45	45	0	0	27	0	0	397	384	-64	-379	0	30	1	131	F	119	A	-137	B	-56
28	0	0	360	370	-370	0	0	28	0	0	44	43	1	-36	0	31	1	85	F	70	A	54	B	45
29	0	0	100	123	-123	0	0	29	0	0	36	36	1	47	0	32	1	153	F	132	A	-118	B	-60
30	0	0	47	60	-60	0	0	30	0	0	73	65	44	47	0	33	1	93	F	95	A	-63	B	-72
31	0	0	91	72	-72	0	0	31	0	0	141	141	-22	279	0	34	1	111	F	112	A	-110	B	-23
32	0	0	102	84	-84	0	0	32	0	0	93	99	91	39	0	35	1	77	F	75	A	-71	B	-23
33	0	0	150	106	-106	0	0	33	0	0	74	56	-49	12	0	36	1	50	F	50	A	-23	B	74
34	0	0	81	52	-52	0	0	34	0	0	66	71	24	-67	0	37	1	78	F	91	A	91	B	37
35	0	0	216	178	-178	0	0	35	0	0	104	32	-99	13	0	38	1	21	F	24	A	4	B	-4
36	0	0	373	363	-363	0	0	36	0	0	14	18	17	4	0	39	1	172	F	158	A	30	B	156
37	0	0	402	384	-384	0	0	37	0	0	128	128	-10	128	0	40	1	389	F	362	A	-361	B	-27
38	0	0	112	112	-112	0	0	38	0	0	68	81	-62	52	0	41	1	231	F	222	A	197	B	102
39	0	0	21	27	-27	0	0	39	0	0	56	56	25	50	0	42	1	146	F	132	A	-74	B	110
40	0	0	32	25	-25	0	0	40	0	0	206	196	4	-196	0	43	1	226	F	226	A	-242	B	148
41	0	0	116	119	-119	0	0	41	0	0	32	24	20	-14	0	44	1	169	F	169	A	-102	B	-126
42	0	0	45	41	-41	0	0	42	0	0	46	50	-38	33	0	45	1	137	F	133	A	-85	B	-103
43	0	0	45	47	-47	0	0	43	0	0	50	58	18	-55	0	46	1	91	F	80	A	-31	B	73
44	0	0	66	82	82	0	0	44	0	0	62	40	-3	40	0	47	1	224	F	223	A	221	B	-27
45	0	0	348	334	-334	0	0	45	0	0	139	145	108	97	0	48	1	11	F	77	A	-79	B	15
46	0	0	43	35	-35	0	0	46	0	0	50	43	-43	2	0	49	1	26	F	26	A	-2	B	15
47	0	0	81	105	-105	0	0	47	0	0	43	43	3	13	0	50	1	113	F	102	A	-79	B	-31
48	0	0	35	41	-41	0	0	48	0	0	187	163	-37	179	0	51	1	216	F	201	A	-107	B	-171
49	0	0	273	255	-255	0	0	49	0	0	155	155	-43	149	0	52	1	195	F	153	A	151	B	24
50	0	0	374	337	-337	0	0	50	0	0	209	205	-52	-198	0	53	1	62	F	54	A	6	B	-54
51	0	0	337	317	-317	0	0	51	0	0	141	129	48	-129	0	54	1	230	F	214	A	211	B	-1
52	0	0	524	511	-511	0	0	52	0	0	176	169	-131	-106	0	55	1	72	F	72	A	-61	B	1
53	0	0	199	167	-167	0	0	53	0	0	57	54	-51	-19	0	56	1	181	F	171	A	-147	B	-86
54	0	0	145	145	-145	0	0	54	0	0	14	21	-21	4	0	57	1	6	F	134	A	-113	B	40
55	0	0	184	173	-173	0	0	55	0	0	42	48	-38	29	0	58	1	202	F	193	A	-187	B	50
56	0	0	182	161	-161	0	0	56	0	0	32	32	11	31	0	59	1	50	F	42	A	-1	B	-42
57	0	0	167	171	-171	0	0	57	0	0	48	48	39	-45	0	60	1	89	F	96	A	39	B	-18
58	0	0	72	60	-60	0	0	58	0	0	26	24	6	-24	0	61	1	171	F	193	A	10	B	9
59	0	0	52	68	68	0	0	59	0	0	90	98	45	87	0	62	1	312	F	313	A	-300	B	-90
60	0	0	127	137	-137	0	0	60	0	0	87	37	79	3	0	63	1	129	F	139	A	-110	B	-85
61	0	0	50	55	-55	0	0	61	0	0	44	50	46	-21	0	64	1	293	F	2				

Table 3 (cont.)

Table with multiple columns of numerical data and row labels (A, B, C, etc.) and column labels (H, L, R, etc.). The table is organized into several sections, some with sub-headers like 'K = 4' and 'K = 5'. The data consists of integers, some positive and some negative, arranged in a grid-like structure.



for the difference between Ge-O and Si-O bond lengths. The initial  $R$  index of 32% was reduced after one cycle of least-squares refinement to 23%.

From this point on, the three-dimensional data from the diffractometer were used. Five cycles of least-squares refinement were carried out employing the 461 reflexions with  $\sin \theta/\lambda < 0.55$ , and a further six cycles

on the complete data (1416 reflexions). At this stage, the maximum shift in atomic coordinates was a half of the e.s.d. and the average shift was 0.125 of the average e.s.d.

A three-dimensional difference synthesis was calculated in the hope of locating at least some of the twelve independent hydrogen atoms. Five peaks were

Table 4. *Final parameters for the non-hydrogen atoms of*  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Figures in brackets give the estimated standard deviation corresponding to the least significant digit.

	Coordinates (fractions of cell edge)			Isotropic temperature factor $B$
	$x$	$y$	$z$	
Si	0.1258 (2)	0.0143 (5)	0.2090 (3)	1.29 (2) Å <sup>2</sup>
Na(1)	0.3828 (3)	0.4619 (8)	0.9264 (6)	2.10 (6)
Na(2)	0.1265 (3)	0.4986 (9)	0.5652 (6)	2.40 (6)
O(1)	0.2638 (5)	0.988 (1)	0.3362 (9)	1.4 (1)
O(2)	0.1017 (5)	0.988 (1)	0.951 (1)	1.4 (1)
O(3)	0.0482 (5)	0.812 (1)	0.312 (1)	1.5 (1)
O(4)	0.0807 (6)	0.260 (1)	0.279 (1)	1.7 (1)
O(5)	0.2730 (6)	0.144 (1)	0.745 (1)	2.3 (1)
O(6)	0.4130 (6)	0.320 (1)	0.301 (1)	2.3 (1)
O(7)	0.3383 (7)	0.633 (1)	0.562 (1)	2.5 (1)
O(8)	0.4190 (6)	0.853 (1)	0.058 (1)	2.2 (1)
O(9)	0.1841 (6)	0.552 (1)	0.944 (1)	2.2 (1)

Table 5. *Positions of oxygen atoms O(3) and O(4)*

	Coordinates (fraction of cell edge)	Isotropic temperature factor, $B$			
		$x$	$y$	$z$	
(a) $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (first 'refined' structure)	O(3)	0.083	0.734	0.277	2.7 Å <sup>2</sup>
	O(4)	0.047	0.197	0.326	1.8
(b) $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	O(3)	0.048	0.812	0.312	1.5
	O(4)	0.081	0.260	0.279	1.8
(c) $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (final refined structure)	O(3)	0.045	0.820	0.323	0.9
	O(4)	0.088	0.288	0.270	1.2

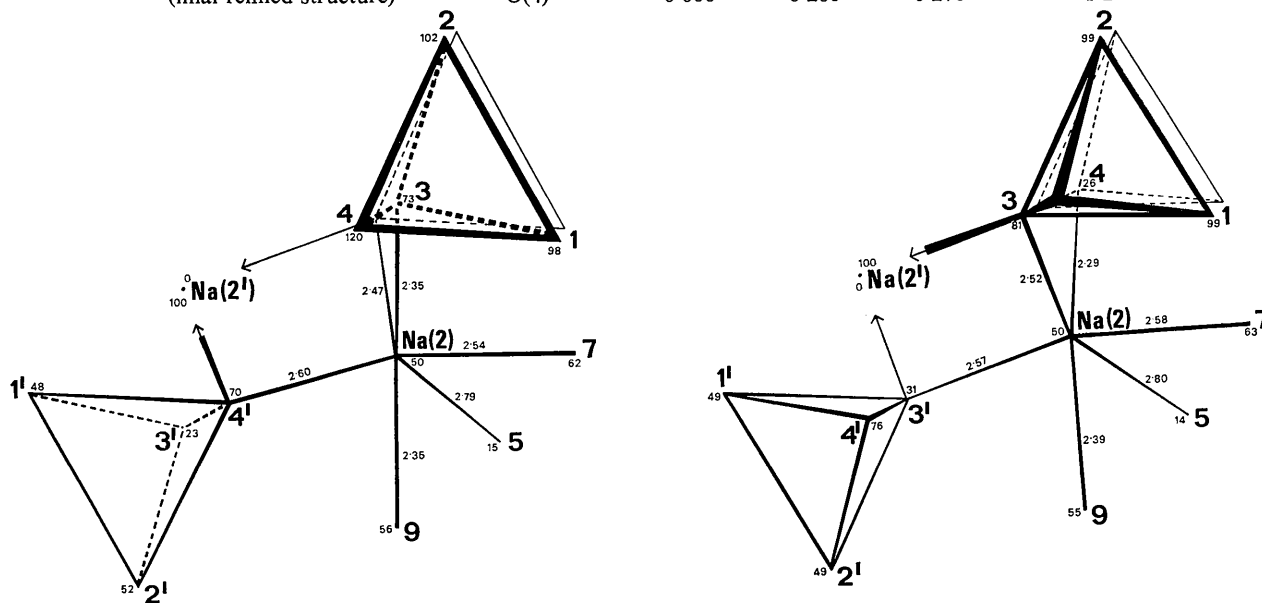


Fig. 2. Difference between the first (erroneous) structure of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (left) and the final structure of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Germanium-oxygen and silicon-oxygen tetrahedra are drawn. Large figures represent the numbers given to different oxygen atoms, with primes indicating different asymmetric units.  $y$  coordinates (small figures) are in hundredths of the cell side, and bond distances are in Å. The correct structure for  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is very similar to that of the silicate.





Table 6 (cont.)

Table with columns labeled H, L, Fo, Ao, Bo and rows of numerical data. The table is organized into two main sections, with the second section starting at row 100. Each row contains a sequence of numbers, some positive and some negative, representing data points for different parameters.

Table 6 (cont.)

H		L		F <sub>0</sub>		A <sub>0</sub>		B <sub>0</sub>		H		L		F <sub>0</sub>		A <sub>0</sub>		B <sub>0</sub>		
10	11	11	11	220	220	-42	216	6	6	19	23	10	10	194	163	153	55	194	163	
11	11	11	11	223	234	-73	222	7	6	122	131	11	11	143	132	126	37	143	132	
12	11	11	11	204	204	-17	204	1	-6	78	65	12	12	54	40	13	38	12	40	
13	11	11	11	32	33	32	32	2	3	97	73	13	13	301	272	-258	-84	13	301	
14	11	11	11	108	108	21	-106	3	2	152	146	14	14	242	214	-127	-127	14	242	
0	0	0	0	143	123	-105	-63	4	-6	227	230	15	15	125	115	-21	113	15	125	
1	0	0	0	191	170	-20	-88	5	-6	170	125	16	16	239	209	-103	103	16	239	
2	0	0	0	265	265	-112	-189	6	6	60	36	17	17	30	19	282	260	17	30	
3	0	0	0	229	229	40	-89	7	-6	167	159	18	18	133	144	74	124	18	167	
4	0	0	0	237	207	-38	203	8	-6	105	100	19	19	212	208	-156	-137	19	105	
5	0	0	0	281	241	-71	230	9	-6	67	68	20	20	301	272	-258	-84	20	67	
6	0	0	0	172	136	-58	124	10	-6	45	24	21	21	242	214	-127	-127	21	45	
7	0	0	0	52	52	-37	-57	11	-6	158	139	22	22	124	115	-21	113	22	158	
8	0	0	0	170	170	5	-170	12	-6	70	80	23	23	86	86	282	278	23	70	
9	0	0	0	191	182	55	-173	13	0	7	110	24	24	62	62	144	144	24	7	
10	0	0	0	154	139	-39	-133	14	0	7	110	14	14	198	199	-198	-198	14	7	
11	0	0	0	58	58	70	-35	15	3	7	169	147	15	15	91	91	-115	-115	15	7
12	0	0	0	166	181	23	180	16	4	7	34	22	16	22	-15	-17	-8	-8	16	7
13	0	0	0	182	182	30	-179	17	5	7	88	85	17	17	56	64	-17	-17	17	8
14	0	0	0	355	347	238	-253	18	6	7	169	163	18	18	160	160	-160	-160	18	9
0	0	0	0	101	88	-49	-88	19	7	7	106	104	19	19	98	98	-98	-98	19	10
1	0	0	0	208	208	-43	204	20	7	7	225	212	20	20	61	61	-203	-203	20	11
2	0	0	0	245	256	-147	210	21	7	7	251	235	21	21	49	49	-108	-108	21	12
3	0	0	0	172	189	-74	174	22	7	7	92	78	22	22	29	29	-72	-72	22	13
4	0	0	0	121	124	107	61	23	7	7	163	147	23	23	18	18	-146	-146	23	14
5	0	0	0	226	231	-52	-225	24	7	7	203	178	24	24	30	30	-158	-158	24	15
6	0	0	0	314	318	126	-292	25	6	7	164	147	25	25	17	17	-214	-214	25	16
7	0	0	0	148	166	73	-149	26	7	7	88	98	26	26	80	80	-80	-80	26	17
8	0	0	0	229	21	17	-12	27	6	7	90	82	27	27	44	44	-70	-70	27	18
9	0	0	0	125	135	-135	135	28	8	7	172	161	28	28	30	30	-158	-158	28	19
10	0	0	0	181	184	-97	-156	29	8	7	145	146	29	29	74	74	-145	-145	29	20
11	0	0	0	96	96	95	95	30	2	8	63	70	30	30	-16	-68	-68	-68	30	21
12	0	0	0	181	155	103	-116	31	1	8	35	36	31	31	4	35	-4	-4	31	22
13	0	0	0	277	235	90	-217	32	1	8	93	104	32	32	-45	-94	-94	-94	32	23
14	0	0	0	128	107	30	-103	33	4	4	122	131	33	33	63	-115	-115	-115	33	24
0	0	0	0	58	48	47	-170	34	4	4	154	147	34	34	55	-136	-136	-136	34	25
1	0	0	0	245	245	-84	170	35	4	4	50	53	35	35	18	-50	-50	-50	35	26
2	0	0	0	326	326	-122	-249	36	6	6	50	53	36	36	18	-50	-50	-50	36	27
3	0	0	0	90	88	88	-59	37	6	6	154	154	37	37	18	-50	-50	-50	37	28
4	0	0	0	39	16	-9	-13	38	6	6	102	102	38	38	5	-119	-119	-119	38	29
5	0	0	0	157	146	114	-91	39	8	8	115	102	39	39	5	-102	-102	-102	39	30
6	0	0	0	182	158	1	-158	40	8	8	280	299	40	40	-295	-52	-52	-52	40	31
7	0	0	0	79	65	-15	-63	41	0	0	154	164	41	41	-163	7	7	7	41	32
8	0	0	0	67	66	66	-1	42	0	0	87	87	42	42	-37	79	79	79	42	33
9	0	0	0	137	142	-63	122	43	0	0	119	119	43	43	22	22	-22	-22	43	34
10	0	0	0	112	112	-112	112	44	7	0	248	222	44	44	28	28	-28	-28	44	35
11	0	0	0	78	73	71	17	45	9	0	93	85	45	45	69	69	-69	-69	45	36
12	0	0	0	228	212	132	-166	46	10	0	75	61	46	46	-43	-43	-43	-43	46	37
13	0	0	0	267	263	-54	-257	47	10	0	87	85	47	47	50	50	-50	-50	47	38
14	0	0	0	63	63	50	-39	48	10	0	93	75	48	48	-61	-61	-61	-61	48	39
0	0	0	0	69	75	-4	74	49	11	0	206	206	49	49	-170	-117	-117	-117	49	40
1	0	0	0	261	251	-132	214	50	12	0	151	159	50	50	-155	-33	-33	-33	50	41
2	0	0	0	190	212	-49	206	51	14	0	96	91	51	51	-87	-24	-24	-24	51	42
3	0	0	0	141	152	-99	-99	52	14	0	67	64	52	52	64	64	-64	-64	52	43
4	0	0	0	77	68	68	-9	53	14	0	111	107	53	53	11	11	-11	-11	53	44
5	0	0	0	210	203	81	-186	54	5	1	185	154	54	54	107	107	-107	-107	54	45
6	0	0	0	139	128	35	-124	55	5	1	226	181	55	55	127	127	-127	-127	55	46
7	0	0	0	78	100	99	-17	56	6	1	140	130	56	56	106	106	-106	-106	56	47
8	0	0	0	66	59	-59	8	57	6	1	123	94	57	57	-49	-80	-80	-80	57	48
9	0	0	0	106	106	-68	81	58	6	1	117	117	58	58	-91	-74	-74	-74	58	49
10	0	0	0	232	232	-45	-227	59	9	1	141	117	59	59	-110	-110	-110	-110	59	50
11	0	0	0	167	144	-16	-144	60	10	1	203	170	60	60	-53	-60	-60	-60	60	51
12	0	0	0	163	138	-78	113	61	10	1	95	79	61	61	70	70	-70	-70	61	52
13	0	0	0	380	322	-64	-216	62	11	1	130	123	62	62	40	40	-40	-40	62	53
14	0	0	0	239	202	-71	189	63	11	1	135	138	63	63	78	78	-78	-78	63	54
0	0	0	0	26	20	17	14	64	11	1	118	113	64	64	-112	-113	-113	-113	64	55
1	0	0	0	115	111	45	-102	65	11	1	204	185	65	65	-124	-137	-137	-137	65	56
2	0	0	0	257	216	84	-199	66	12	1	214	204	66	66	-53	-30	-30	-30	66	57
3	0	0	0	193	170	-113	-127	67	12	1	56	61	67	67	17	17	-17	-17	67	58
4	0	0	0	102	114	-39	102	68	12	1	139	138	68	68	137	137	-137	-137	68	59
5	0	0	0	295	265	-50	-209	69	12	1	212	212	69	69	166	166	-166	-166	69	60
6	0	0	0	144	129	-55	116	70	13	1	198	181	70	70	41	41	-41	-41	70	61
7	0	0	0	232	212	-14	-211	71	13	1	31	18	71	71	60	60	-60	-60	71	62
8	0	0	0	343	346	97	-332	72	13	1	113	121	72	72	-113	-114	-114	-114	72	63
9	0	0	0	301	313	65	-306	73	13	1	153	160	73	73	-113	-114	-114	-114	73	64
10	0	0	0	246	244	-122	211	74	14	1	113	121	74	74	-120	-115	-115	-115	74	65
11	0	0	0	260	261	-7	261	75	0	2	240	217	75	75	-208	-208	-208	-208	75	66
12	0	0	0	90	97	-31	92	76	0	2	242	228	76	76	-109	-109	-109	-109	76	67
13	0	0	0	113	116	44	-107	77	0	2	116									

found near certain of the oxygen atoms (Table 2) which may represent hydrogen atoms, but it was not thought worth while to calculate structure factors with these included and no further refinement was carried out. The final  $R$  value was 11.1% for 1416 reflexions (Table 3); no omissions were made. Final parameters and estimated standard deviations are listed in Table 4.

### Incorrectness of the 'refined' structure of $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

A comparison of the silicate and germanate structures showed that agreement was generally good. The positions of the oxygen atoms O(3) and O(4), however,

had changed considerably in the refinement of the silicate (Table 5) so that in the (010) projection the two atoms had virtually changed places, while retaining similar heights up  $y$  (Fig. 2). In addition, it should be noted that the  $x, y, z$  coordinates of O(3) in the germanate structure [Table 5(a)] become the  $x, \bar{y}, z$  coordinates of O(4) in the silicate [Table 5(b)], with a similar effect for O(4) of the germanate.

Because of this inconsistency, it was suspected that one of the structures was wrong. Of the two, the silicate was considered more likely to be correct because (1) it had refined further from the germanate structure to give a lower final  $R$  value and (2) the final difference synthesis showed no unusual effects. Accordingly, a

Table 7. Final parameters for the non-hydrogen atoms of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Figures in brackets give the estimated standard deviation corresponding to the least significant digit.

	Coordinates (fractions of cell edge)			Isotropic temperature factor, $B$
	$x$	$y$	$z$	
Ge	0.1312 (1)	0.0122 (4)	0.2092 (1)	0.77 (1) $\text{\AA}^2$
Na(1)	0.3826 (3)	0.4681 (8)	0.9298 (6)	1.35 (6)
Na(2)	0.1314 (3)	0.500 (1)	0.5694 (6)	1.83 (6)
O(1)	0.2768 (5)	0.984 (1)	0.344 (1)	0.8 (1)
O(2)	0.1033 (5)	0.978 (1)	0.934 (1)	0.8 (1)
O(3)	0.0450 (6)	0.820 (1)	0.323 (1)	0.9 (1)
O(4)	0.0876 (6)	0.288 (2)	0.270 (1)	1.2 (1)
O(5)	0.2769 (7)	0.149 (2)	0.748 (1)	1.8 (1)
O(6)	0.4172 (7)	0.325 (2)	0.294 (1)	2.2 (1)
O(7)	0.3427 (7)	0.625 (2)	0.568 (1)	2.1 (1)
O(8)	0.4193 (6)	0.856 (2)	0.056 (1)	1.3 (1)
O(9)	0.1849 (6)	0.556 (2)	0.944 (1)	1.8 (1)

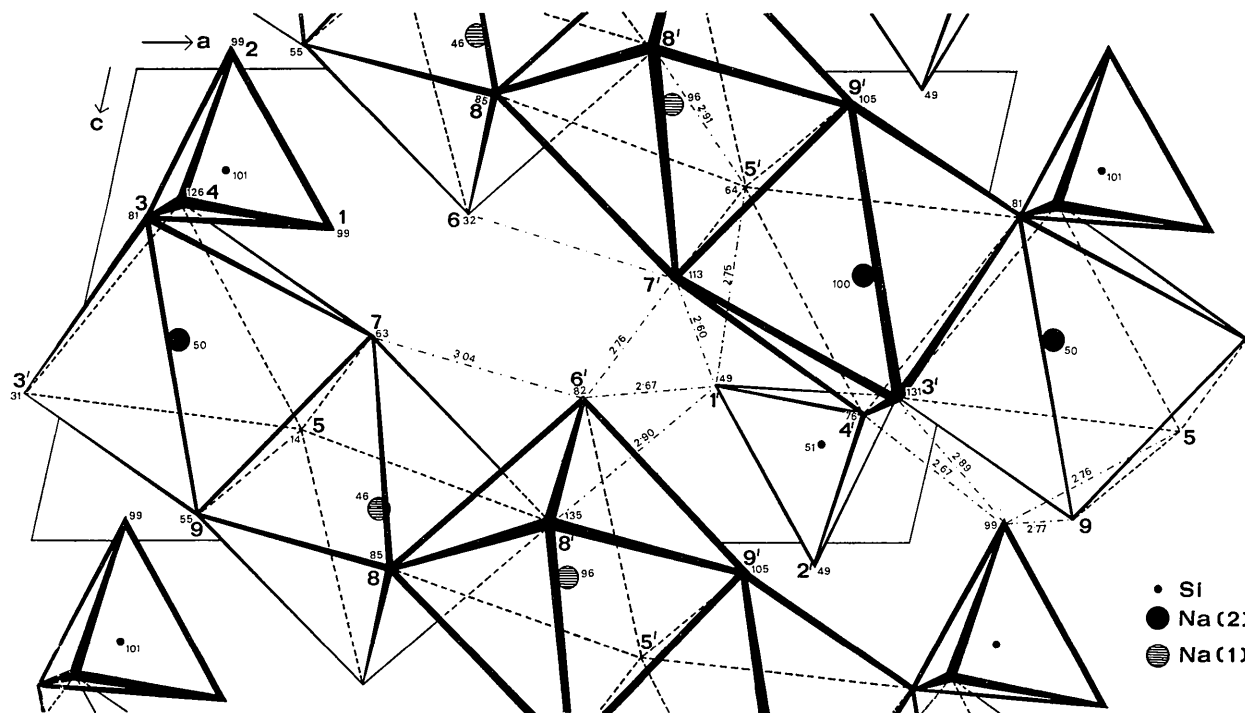


Fig. 3. Projection of the structure of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  on (010) (slightly distorted to show details more clearly). Silicon-oxygen tetrahedra and sodium-oxygen octahedra are drawn, oxygen atoms occurring at the corners. Figures have the same significance as in Fig. 2, and some hydrogen bond lengths are given in  $\text{\AA}$ . The sodium-oxygen octahedra share the faces O(5)–O(7)–O(9) and the corners O(3) and O(8).

further sequence of least-squares refinements on  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was undertaken, this time employing the parameters for O(3) and O(4) taken from the silicate structure.

The initial  $R$  value was slightly higher than previously obtained, at 13.0%, but the atoms O(3) and O(4) did not tend to return to their original positions. A total of ten further least-squares cycles on the full data were required for complete refinement. At this stage, the maximum shift in atomic coordinates was 0.167 of the e.s.d. and the average shift 0.066 of the average e.s.d. The final  $R$  index was reduced to 8.5% (from 11.9%) for 1347 reflexions (Table 6). Final parameters and standard deviations are listed in Table 7.

The experience outlined here shows the danger in accepting too readily the results of least-squares refinements, however plausible, and especially where a 'heavy' atom is involved.

### Description of the structure

The (010) projection of the structure of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is illustrated in Fig. 3. It could equally well represent the germanate structure, with minor alterations to the atomic positions and bond distances.

Each silicon and germanium atom is surrounded by four oxygen atoms at the corners of a somewhat distorted tetrahedron [Table 8(a) and Fig. 4]; in the ensuing discussion, these will be called 'tetrahedral' oxygen atoms to distinguish them from the 'water' oxygen atoms. Si-O bond distances vary from 1.62 to 1.71 Å and Ge-O distances from 1.72 to 1.83 Å. A surprising difference is that in the silicate there is one outstandingly long bond [Si-O(3)], the other three being of a similar length, while in the germanate there are two long bonds and two shorter ones. The tetrahedra are isolated, but approach each other fairly closely [Table 8(c)], indicating the presence of hydrogen bonds (to be discussed later).

There are two independent sodium atoms. Na(1) is surrounded entirely by 'water' oxygen atoms in the form of a fairly regular octahedron [Table 8(b)]. Bond

lengths vary from 2.36 to 2.52 Å in the germanate and from 2.37 to 2.50 Å in the silicate. Na(2) is coordinated by three 'tetrahedral' oxygen atoms and three 'water' oxygen atoms; the resulting octahedron shows far more distortion [Table 8(b)]. Bond lengths vary considerably: from 2.28 to 2.82 Å in the germanate and from 2.29 to 2.80 Å in the silicate. The sodium-oxygen octahedra are linked together in an unusual manner to produce sheets (Fig. 3).

Table 8(e) shows the coordination of the 'water' oxygen atoms. Three of these, O(6), O(8) and O(9), have roughly tetrahedral coordination. O(5) and O(7) are five-coordinated, in the shape of what may be described most nearly as an irregular trigonal bipyramid.

### Hydrogen bonding system

There are twelve independent hydrogen atoms to be located. Table 8(c) and (d) lists all twelve O-O distances less than 3.25 Å for atoms not bonded to the same silicon, germanium or sodium atom. It is assumed that each of these represents some sort of hydrogen bond. The distance O(4)-O(9) in the silicate (3.18 Å) seems too long for this, but if O(9) is in fact a water molecule, then it must have a hydrogen atom pointing somewhere in the direction of O(4).

The shortest distances between the tetrahedra, taken to represent hydrogen bonds, are from O(2) to O(3) and from O(2) to O(4). This means that at least two hydrogen atoms must be associated with each tetrahedron, and as they cannot both be near O(2), at least one must be near O(3) or O(4). The Si-O(3) bond is long and a peak was found near O(3) on the difference synthesis, leading to the conclusion that O(3) is a hydroxyl group. In support of this argument, the Na-O(3) distances calculated are consistently fairly long (average 2.55 Å), indicating that O(3) is not charged.

On the other hand, the Na(2)-O(4) distance is outstandingly short for both silicate and germanate, and in the silicate Si-O(4) is not much longer than Si-O(2). No peak was found near O(4) on the difference synthesis, and it is difficult to decide whether the hydrogen

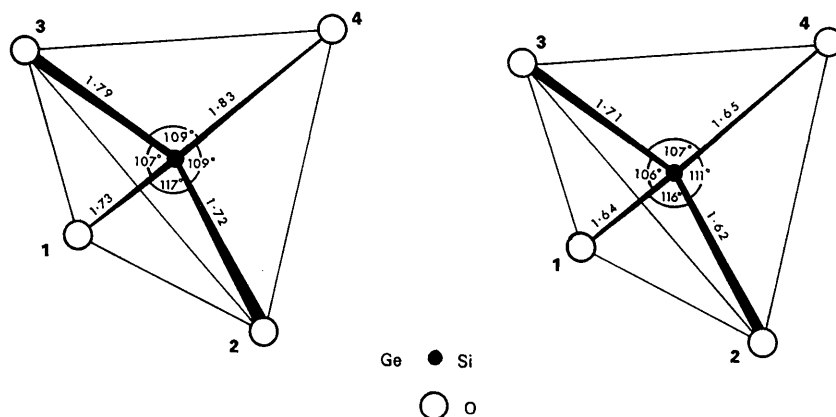


Fig. 4. Details of (left) Ge-O tetrahedron in  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{GeO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and (right) Si-O tetrahedron in  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Bond lengths in Å.

Table 8. *Interatomic distances and bond angles for Na<sub>2</sub>O·GeO<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O and Na<sub>2</sub>O·SiO<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O*  
 Figures in brackets represent the estimated standard deviation corresponding to the least significant digit.

## (a) Germanium–oxygen and silicon–oxygen tetrahedra.

Na <sub>2</sub> O·GeO <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O		Na <sub>2</sub> O·SiO <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	
	Bond distance		Bond distance
Ge–O(1)	1·726 (8) Å	Si–O(1)	1·640 (7) Å
Ge–O(2)	1·723 (8)	Si–O(2)	1·623 (7)
Ge–O(3)	1·792 (8)	Si–O(3)	1·712 (7)
Ge–O(4)	1·833 (9)	Si–O(4)	1·646 (8)
O(1)–O(2)	2·94 (1)	O(1)–O(2)	2·767 (9)
–O(3)	2·83 (1)	–O(3)	2·679 (9)
–O(4)	2·83 (1)	–O(4)	2·632 (9)
O(2)–O(3)	2·87 (1)	O(2)–O(3)	2·718 (9)
–O(4)	2·90 (1)	–O(4)	2·701 (9)
O(3)–O(4)	2·95 (1)	O(3)–O(4)	2·704 (9)
	Bond angle		Bond angle
O(1)–Ge–O(2)	116·6 (4)°	O(1)–Si–O(2)	116·0 (3)°
–O(3)	107·1 (4)	–O(3)	106·1 (3)
–O(4)	105·5 (4)	–O(4)	106·5 (3)
O(2)–Ge–O(3)	109·3 (4)	O(2)–Si–O(3)	109·2 (3)
–O(4)	108·9 (4)	–O(4)	111·4 (4)
O(3)–Ge–O(4)	109·1 (4)	O(3)–Si–O(4)	107·3 (4)

## (b) Sodium–oxygen octahedra.

	Na <sub>2</sub> O·GeO <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	Na <sub>2</sub> O·SiO <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O
	Bond distance	Bond distance
Na(1)–O(5)	2·46 (1) Å	2·43 (1) Å
–O(6)	2·43 (1)	2·49 (1)
–O(7)	2·45 (1)	2·50 (1)
–O(8)'	2·37 (1)	2·37 (1)
–O(8)	2·52 (1)	2·48 (1)
–O(9)	2·36 (1)	2·39 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
O(5)–Na(1)–O(6)	97·3 (4)°	98·5 (3)°
–O(7)	84·0 (4)	83·6 (3)
–O(8')	99·3 (3)	102·2 (3)
–O(9)	79·5 (3)	77·6 (3)
O(8)–Na(1)–O(6)	93·2 (3)	90·8 (3)
–O(7)	84·9 (3)	85·4 (3)
–O(8')	99·7 (3)	98·7 (3)
–O(9)	82·5 (3)	82·4 (3)
O(6)–Na(1)–O(8')	83·8 (3)	85·7 (3)
–O(9)	90·8 (4)	88·5 (3)
O(7)–Na(1)–O(8')	98·2 (4)	99·3 (3)
–O(9)	87·3 (4)	86·5 (3)
	Bond distance	Bond distance
Na(2)–O(3)	2·58 (1) Å	2·52 (1) Å
–O(3')	2·53 (1)	2·57 (1)
–O(4)	2·28 (1)	2·29 (1)
–O(5)	2·82 (1)	2·80 (1)
–O(7)	2·55 (1)	2·58 (1)
–O(9)	2·36 (1)	2·39 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
O(3)–Na(2)–O(3')	105·6 (3)°	108·6 (3)°
–O(4)	86·6 (3)	87·5 (3)
–O(7)	90·9 (3)	88·8 (3)
–O(9)	119·2 (4)	122·7 (3)
O(5)–Na(2)–O(3')	89·9 (3)	89·7 (2)
–O(4)	84·6 (3)	82·9 (3)
–O(7)	75·3 (3)	75·1 (3)
–O(9)	72·4 (3)	70·7 (3)
O(3')–Na(2)–O(4)	85·7 (3)	84·8 (3)
–O(9)	81·1 (3)	79·5 (3)
O(7)–Na(2)–O(4)	102·4 (4)	104·4 (3)
–O(9)	84·9 (4)	84·5 (3)

Table 8 (*cont.*)

(c) Hydrogen bonds linking the tetrahedra directly.

	Na <sub>2</sub> O . GeO <sub>2</sub> . 6H <sub>2</sub> O	Na <sub>2</sub> O . SiO <sub>2</sub> . 6H <sub>2</sub> O
	Bond distance	Bond distance
O(2)–O(3')	2.97 (1) Å	2.89 (1) Å
O(2)–O(4')	2.58 (1)	2.67 (1)

(d) Other hydrogen bonds

O(1)–O(5)	2.76 (1) Å	2.75 (1) Å
–O(6)	2.71 (1)	2.67 (1)
–O(7)	2.65 (1)	2.60 (1)
–O(8)	2.82 (1)	2.90 (1)
O(2)–O(5)	2.74 (1)	2.76 (1)
–O(9)	2.75 (1)	2.77 (1)
O(4)–O(9)	3.04 (1)	[3.18 (1)]
O(5)–O(8)	2.90 (1)	2.91 (1)
O(6)–O(7')	2.98 (1)	3.04 (1)
–O(7)	2.80 (1)	2.76 (1)

(e) Coordination of the 'water' oxygen atoms.

	Na <sub>2</sub> O . GeO <sub>2</sub> . 6H <sub>2</sub> O	Na <sub>2</sub> O . SiO <sub>2</sub> . 6H <sub>2</sub> O
	Bond distance	Bond distance
O(5)–Na(1)	2.46 (1) Å	2.43 (1) Å
–Na(2)	2.82 (1)	2.80 (1)
–O(1)	2.76 (1)	2.75 (1)
–O(2)	2.74 (1)	2.76 (1)
–O(8)	2.90 (1)	2.91 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
Na(1)–O(5)–Na(2)	76.9 (3)°	79.6 (3)°
–O(1)	129.4 (4)	129.2 (3)
–O(2)	115.7 (4)	113.0 (3)
–O(8)	91.4 (3)	88.2 (3)
Na(2)–O(5)–O(1)	91.4 (3)	88.4 (3)
–O(2)	92.5 (3)	90.9 (3)
–O(8)	161.9 (4)	161.4 (3)
O(1)–O(5)–O(2)	113.8 (4)	116.3 (3)
–O(8)	106.8 (4)	110.2 (3)
O(2)–O(5)–O(8)	80.2 (3)	81.0 (3)
	Bond distance	Bond distance
O(6)–Na(1)	2.43 (1) Å	2.49 (1) Å
–O(1)	2.71 (1)	2.67 (1)
–O(7')	2.98 (1)	3.04 (1)
–O(7)	2.80 (1)	2.76 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
Na(1)–O(6)–O(1)	114.2 (4)°	111.7 (3)°
–O(7')	110.2 (4)	109.6 (3)
–O(7)	112.7 (4)	110.7 (3)
O(1)–O(6)–O(7')	99.7 (4)	107.0 (3)
–O(7)	100.7 (4)	97.9 (3)
O(7')–O(6)–O(7)	118.4 (5)	118.2 (3)
	Na <sub>2</sub> O . GeO <sub>2</sub> . 6H <sub>2</sub> O	Na <sub>2</sub> O . SiO <sub>2</sub> . 6H <sub>2</sub> O
	Bond distance	Bond distance
O(7)–Na(1)	2.45 (1) Å	2.50 (1) Å
–Na(2)	2.55 (1)	2.58 (1)
–O(1)	2.65 (1)	2.60 (1)
–O(6)	2.80 (1)	2.76 (1)
–O(6')	2.98 (1)	3.04 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
Na(1)–O(7)–Na(2)	82.5 (4)°	82.9 (3)°
–O(1)	144.2 (5)	145.9 (4)
–O(6)	107.6 (4)	105.0 (3)
–O(6')	84.6 (4)	83.2 (3)
Na(2)–O(7)–O(1)	95.0 (4)	93.0 (3)
–O(6)	102.8 (4)	102.5 (3)
–O(6')	161.4 (5)	162.5 (4)
O(1)–O(7)–O(6)	107.7 (4)	108.9 (4)
–O(6')	87.6 (4)	92.5 (3)
O(6)–O(7)–O(6')	93.9 (4)	91.4 (3)

Table 8 (cont.)

	Bond distance	Bond distance
O(8)–Na(1')	2.37 (1) Å	2.37 (1) Å
–Na(1)	2.52 (1)	2.48 (1)
–O(1)	2.82 (1)	2.90 (1)
–O(5)	2.90 (1)	2.91 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
Na(1')–O(8)–Na(1)	112.6 (4)°	111.5 (3)°
–O(1)	125.4 (4)	128.1 (3)
–O(5)	104.3 (4)	107.3 (3)
Na(1)–O(8)–O(1)	113.0 (3)	112.8 (3)
–O(5)	109.9 (4)	107.2 (3)
O(1)–O(8)–O(5)	86.7 (3)	84.9 (3)
	Bond distance	Bond distance
O(9)–Na(1)	2.36 (1) Å	2.39 (1) Å
–Na(2)	2.36 (1)	2.39 (1)
–O(2)	2.75 (1)	2.77 (1)
–O(4)	3.04 (1)	3.18 (1)
	Bond angle	Bond angle
Na(1)–O(9)–Na(2)	88.4 (3)°	89.4 (3)°
–O(2)	123.6 (4)	123.3 (3)
–O(4)	113.4 (4)	114.2 (3)
Na(2)–O(9)–O(2)	95.6 (4)	96.7 (3)
–O(4)	123.6 (4)	122.9 (3)
O(2)–O(9)–O(4)	110.7 (4)	108.9 (3)

atom indicated by the short O(2)–O(4) distance is associated with O(2), with O(4), or (most probably) shared by the two atoms. The long Ge–O(4) distance may mean that in the germanate the hydrogen atom is more firmly attached to O(4), although the Na(2)–O(4) distance remains short.

The rest of the structure can be explained on the basis of O(5) to O(9) being water molecules, but if the fact that only a few peaks could be picked up on the difference synthesis is significant, it seems probable that there is some sort of statistical distribution of hydrogen atoms throughout the structure. If this is the case, then some of the 'water' oxygen atoms could tend towards (OH)<sup>–</sup> and others towards (H<sub>3</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>.

### Discussion

The Si–O bond lengths for the (H<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>)<sup>2–</sup> ion in Na<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O (Jamieson & Dent Glasser, 1966*b*) are 1.672 and 1.591 ± 0.008 Å.

A recent structure refinement of Na<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>3</sub> (McDonald & Cruickshank, 1967) has shown distances of 1.672 and 1.592 ± 0.002 Å for the bridging and non-bridging Si–O bonds respectively. For this reason, it is thought that the lengths in Na<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O are a true indication of the distinction between Si–OH and Si–O. McDonald & Cruickshank (1967) have pointed out that these distances agree with the π-bonding theory developed for bond lengths in acid phosphates (Cruickshank & Robinson, 1966).

The distance Si–O(3) (1.712 Å) in Na<sub>2</sub>O·SiO<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O is thus considerably longer than would be expected for Si–OH. This may be explained by the fact that O(3) is coordinated also by two sodium atoms.

The remaining Si–O distances lie about midway between expected lengths for Si–O and Si–OH, supporting the conclusion that the hydrogen atoms have a statistical distribution. It seems likely, from a study of bond lengths, that the formula of the anion in Na<sub>2</sub>O·SiO<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O lies somewhere between (H<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>)<sup>2–</sup> and (H<sub>3</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>)<sup>–</sup>.

The structure of the sodium silicate hydrate Na<sub>2</sub>O·SiO<sub>2</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O has recently been solved (Jost & Hilmer, 1966). This structure shows many similarities to that of Na<sub>2</sub>O·SiO<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, and Si–O bond distances are 1.61, 1.61, 1.64 and 1.70 Å. It is probable that the hydrogen atoms again take up a statistical distribution.

Several hydrogen germanates are known in addition to Na<sub>2</sub>O·GeO<sub>2</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O. These have been formulated as MH<sub>3</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M = Li, Na, K, NH<sub>4</sub>, Rb, Cs] (Nowotny & Wittmann, 1953; Nowotny & Szekely, 1952), M<sub>3</sub>HGe<sub>7</sub>O<sub>16</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O [M = Li, Na, K, NH<sub>4</sub>, Rb, Cs, Tl, Ag] (Wittmann & Nowotny, 1956), BaH<sub>2</sub>GeO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O and SrH<sub>2</sub>GeO<sub>4</sub> (Nowotny & Szekely, 1952). The latter has been shown to be isostructural with KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, thus providing evidence for the existence of the (H<sub>2</sub>GeO<sub>4</sub>)<sup>2–</sup> ion. No accurate values for Ge–OH distances are, however, known. Bond distances for Ge–O in quartz-like GeO<sub>2</sub> (Smith & Isaacs, 1964) are 1.739 ± 0.003 Å.

Germanium-oxygen distances in Na<sub>2</sub>O·GeO<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O may indicate that the formula of the anion is more nearly (H<sub>2</sub>GeO<sub>4</sub>)<sup>2–</sup> as compared with the silicate. In view of the doubt as to the location of the hydrogen atoms, however, it would be unwise to assign an exact formula to either of these compounds.

We thank the Science Research Council for their support of this work.

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### Crystal Structures of Mesotartaric Acid

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(Received 24 June 1966)

Triclinic mesotartaric acid monohydrate crystallizes in  $P\bar{1}$  with  $Z=2$  and  $a=5.516$ ,  $b=9.220$ ,  $c=7.330$  Å and  $\alpha=115.11$ ,  $\beta=93.62$ ,  $\gamma=93.64^\circ$ ; the monoclinic monohydrate in  $P2_1/c$  with  $Z=4$  and  $a=5.215$ ,  $b=5.019$ ,  $c=25.92$  Å and  $\beta=99.72^\circ$ ; the triclinic anhydrous modification in  $P\bar{1}$  with  $Z=2$  and  $a=9.459$ ,  $b=6.464$ ,  $c=5.396$  Å and  $\alpha=68.99$ ,  $\beta=76.36$ ,  $\gamma=75.77^\circ$ ; and the orthorhombic anhydrous modification in  $Pbn2_1$  or  $Pbnm$  with  $Z=16$  and  $a=19.05$ ,  $b=9.88$ ,  $c=12.16$  Å. The first three structures were solved by application of the correlation method to projections and refined by three-dimensional least squares.

The molecules are not centrosymmetric but have the staggered conformations as found earlier in mesotartarates. In the monoclinic modification the carbonyl group in one of the planar halves of the molecule is, surprisingly, not at the side of the  $\alpha$ -hydroxyl group. The other intramolecular bond lengths and angles are approximately the same for the three structures. In the networks of hydrogen bonds, carboxylic acid dimers and hydrated links are of primary importance.

#### Introduction

The object of this investigation was to determine the conformation of the mesotartaric acid molecule in several crystal modifications. Moreover, the structure determinations of these substances, containing only light atoms, served as test cases for the correlation method (de Vries, 1965).

In the literature, three modifications of mesotartaric acid are described, namely a triclinic hydrate (Longchambon, 1926) and two anhydrous forms, one of which is orthorhombic (Longchambon, 1926) and the other triclinic (Schneider, 1928).

By recrystallization of the triclinic hydrate from water at different temperatures, the three modifications mentioned in the literature were obtained, as well as a monoclinic monohydrate (Bootsma & Schoone, 1964). Though no thermodynamic data are available it is reasonable to assume that at room temperature the monoclinic hydrate is not the stable modification.

#### Experimental

In the determination of cell-dimensions  $2\theta$  values were measured on the single-crystal diffractometer. For the intensity measurements spherical crystals (diameter  $\sim 0.3$  mm), ground by the technique described by Schuijff & Hulscher (1965), were used. The intensities were recorded on integrated Weissenberg photographs or collected with a General Electric diffractometer provided with a single-crystal orienter and a scintillation counter. Each reflexion was counted once and the background was measured for 15 seconds at both ends of the scanning region ( $3-4^\circ$ ). Copper radiation was used in all cases.

The intensities were corrected for Lorentz-polarization and absorption factors and for non-linearity of the counter.

#### Cell data

The cell dimensions were refined by a least-squares treatment of  $\sin^2\theta$  values. In Table 1 our values are compared with those reported by Longchambon and Schneider.

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