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The Crystal Structure of Hydrazinium(+2) Hexafluorozirconate, N₂H₆ZrF₆

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The structure of N₂H₆ZrF₆ has been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods. The monoclinic unit cell with $a = 8 \cdot 13$, $b = 12 \cdot 16$, $c = 5 \cdot 42$ Å, $\beta = 101 \cdot 5^{\circ}$, contains four formula weights of N₂H₆ZrF₆. In space group $C^{2/m}(C^{2}_{2h})$, No. 12, one symmetrically independent F atom and one N atom occupy general positions, two F atoms and the Zr atom occupy special positions on the mirror plane and two F atoms lie on the twofold axes. Zr is eightfold coordinated by fluorine atoms at an average distance of 2.12 Å in the shape of a bicapped trigonal prism. Each prism shares edges with two neighbouring polyhedra forming, along the [001] direction, infinite zigzag chains which are held together by N-H···F hydrogen bonds. The N-N distance in the $N_2H_6^{2+}$ ion is 1.41 Å.

Introduction

The preparation and investigation of hydrazinium fluoro complexes of transition metals using hydrazinium difluoride as a fluorinating agent were started some vears ago at the Nuclear Institute 'Jožef Stefan' in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. Numerous novel hydrazinium fluoro complexes were prepared (Slivnik & Volavšek, 1968; Slivnik, Šmalc, Sedej & Vilhar, 1964) and the crystal structure determinations of some of them $[N_2H_6ZrF_6, N_2H_6TiF_6, (N_2H_5)_2TiF_6.2HF$ and $(N_2H_5)_3CrF_6$] were undertaken. The structure of $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ was solved to establish whether isolated $[ZrF_6]^{2-}$ ions with six-coordinated zirconium, or ZrF_8 units (formed by sharing of fluorine atoms) with eightcoordinated zirconium are present.

In this paper the crystal structure of $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ is presented and isomorphism between this compound and its Hf analogue is established (Table 1) from the close similarity of their powder photographs.

Table 1. X-ray powder data for $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ and $N_2H_6HfF_6$

	N_2H_6Z	N ₂ H ₆ HfF ₆			
h k I	do	dc	Ι	do	Ι
1 1 0	6·70 Å	6·66 Å	40	6∙70 Å	70
020	6.08	6.08	100	6.07	100
001	5.21	5.31	1	5.33	_
1 1 T	4.53	4.54	25	4.51	25
$\left. \begin{array}{c} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right\}$	4.03	4∙00 3∙98	1	4 ∙01	2
111	3.89	3.85	80	3.90	50
130	3.62	3.61	10	3.62	10
20T	3.54	3.54	30	3.52	25
220	3.35	3.33	5	3.34	2
131	3.12	3.12	1	3.12	3
$\left[\begin{array}{c} 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right]$	3.05	3∙04 3∙06	15	3.04	25
131	2.90	2·88 2·92	1	2.88	3
002	2.67	2.66	20	2.66	25
310)		2.59			
$\begin{array}{c c}1 & 1 & \overline{2} \\2 & 2 & 1\end{array}$	2.62	2·62 2·63	2	2.61	10
0411		2.64			

		Table 1	(cont.)		
h k l	do	dc	Ι	do	I
$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & \overline{2} \end{array} \right\}$	2.43	2·42 2·43 2·45	5	2.43	3
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \\ \end{bmatrix}$	2.31	2·33 2·31	3	2.30	5
$\left.\begin{array}{c}3 & 3 & 0\\1 & 3 & \overline{2}\\2 & 2 & 2\end{array}\right\}$	2.25	2·22 2·24 2·27	2	2.23	4
$\begin{array}{c} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & \overline{1} \\ 1 & 5 & \overline{1} \end{array}$	2.18	2·17 2·18 2·18	15	2.18	7
241	2·12 2·10	2·11 2·09	2 3	2·12 2·09	23
$\left.\begin{array}{c}1&3&2\\3&1&\overline{2}\end{array}\right\}$	2.06	2·05 2·07	20	2.05	7
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2.03	2·03 2·03 2·00	2	2.03	2
042400		2·00 1·99	_	2.00	2
$\begin{array}{c} 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 7 \end{array}$	1.95	1·94 1·93 1·91	3	1.95	3
$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & \overline{1} \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	1.91	1.90 1.89	15	1.90	7
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	1.86	1.89 1.86	1	1.85	1
1 5 2 3 5 0	1.81	1.80 1.79	15	1.80	7
113]		1.79			

Experimental

 $(NH_4)_2$ ZrF₆ (Wolter, 1908) has been known for some years, but $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ (Slivnik *et al.*, 1964) was prepared recently by mixing equimolar solutions of ZrO₂ and $N_2H_6F_2$ in HF. The colourless crystals of $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ belong to the monoclinic holohedral class (Fig. 1) with $a = 8.13 \pm 0.01$, $b = 12.16 \pm 0.03$, $c = 5.42 \pm 0.01$ Å, $\beta = 101 \cdot 5 \pm 0 \cdot 3^\circ$, $V = 525 \cdot 1 \text{ Å}^3$ $D_m = 3.00, D_c = 3.02 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$

Z=4

Cu Ka radiation, $\mu = 191.6$ cm⁻¹.

The systematic absences

hkl for
$$h+k=2n+1$$

h0l for $(h=2n+1)$
0k0 for $(k=2n+1)$

indicate C2, Cm and C2/m as possible space groups, but only C2/m is in agreement with the negative piezoelectric test and this space group was confirmed by solution of the structure.

The density was measured at 25 °C pycnometrically with decalin as the liquid. Equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs were taken using filtered Cu K α radiation and the multiple-film technique (four films), and 693 independent reflexions were recorded. Intensities were estimated with a microdensitometer. To facilitate the calculation of absorption corrections, the crystals were ground to a sphere (r = 0.024 cm) for collecting the data along the [100] and [010] directions, and to a cylinder



Fig. 1. The crystal of $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ with the following forms: $c\{001\}, b\{010\}, m\{110\}, z\{201\}, p\{111\}, e\{\overline{1}11\}.$



Fig. 2. The chain of bicapped trigonal prisms in the [001] direction.

(r=0.014 cm) for the [001] direction. Absorption, Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied.

The $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ crystals used were of poor quality. At first sight they looked perfect, but they actually consisted of a number of smaller crystals with almost the same orientation.

Structure determination

Since there are four formula units in the unit cell of C2/m symmetry, the zirconium atom at least must be placed in a special position. From a three-dimensional Patterson synthesis the position of the Zr atom on the mirror plane 4(i) was deduced, but the x and z coordi-

Table 2. Final coordinates and anisotropic thermal parameters ($\times 10^4$) with e.s.d.'s (in parentheses)

The termal parameters refer to the expression: exp $[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)].$	
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	x	У	Z	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}	В
N(1)	4714 (18)	1790 (10)	3682 (18)							3·5 (0·2) Å ²
F(2)	7551 (12)	1658 (8)	1974 (13)	54 (15)	40 (7)	235 (23)	26 (10)	-16 (13)	2 (10)	. ,
F(3)	0	988 (20)	0	526 (84)	50 (18)	1737 (157)	0	758 (115)	0	
F(4)	0	1011 (17)	5000	150 (40)	29 (15)	794 (79)	0	- 170 (36)	0	
F(5)	3243 (29)	0	919 (22)	344 (54)	30 (10)	183 (45)	0	134 (37)	0	
F(6)	6849 (20)	0	4284 (19)	113 (28)	19 (9)	204 (32)	0	18 (21)	0	
Zr(7)	1538 (2)	0	- 2074 (2)	49 (3)	22 (1)	68 (4)	0	6 (2)	0	

 $R = \sum_{\substack{hkl}} ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum_{\substack{hkl}} |F_o| = 0.087 \text{ (including unobserved reflexions)}$

=0.086 (omitting unobserved reflexions)

nates could not be uniquely determined. The ambiguity was removed by means of a P(x0z) Harker section. With the signs of structure factors based on the position of the Zr atom alone the first three-dimensional electron density map was prepared. In this synthesis only the reflexions with a high contribution from Zr were included. From this map the preliminary positions of five symmetrically independent F atoms and one N atom were determined: one F atom and the N atom in general positions 8(j), two F atoms on the mirror plane

Table 3. Observed and calculated structure factors

H K L 10F0 10FC H K L 10F0 10FC	H K L 10F0 10FC	H K L 10F0 10FC	H 1 L 10F0 10FC	H . K L 10F0 10FC
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	7 3 -5 427 417 7 3 3 560 561 1 3 4 474 -93 1 3 5 560 13 1 3 5 560 13 1 3 5 609 500 3 3 5 609 500 3 3 6 73 143 5 3 3 6 72 7 3 3 5 72 7 3 4 52 -124 6 4 -1 104 -5 10 4 -2 177 24 2 4 -3 702 722 2 4 -4 151 135 4 -5 494 -431 135 4 -5 494 -431 135 4	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
H K L 10F0 10FC H K L 10F0 H 3 7 5 328 -442 3 1 -3 689 7	FC H K L 10F0 10FC	H K L 10F0 10F	C H K L 10F0 10FC	ЙК L 10F0 10FC 4 8 -4 422 -370
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$



Fig. 3. The zigzag chains of polyhedra projected on (010); the first and third chains are at height y=0, the middle chain at $y=\frac{1}{2}$. Double open circles represent two F atoms with the same x, z values. The nearest N···F contacts are designated by dotted lines.

4(i), and two F atoms on the twofold axes 4(h) and 4(g). This Fourier synthesis showed marked elongation of the nitrogen atom peak perpendicular to the twofold axis and in the direction of the N-N bond. A second Fourier synthesis, calculated on the basis of Zr and all the F atoms, gave better shaped and resolved maxima of the light atoms.

The least-squares refinement was performed with isotropic temperature factors using a local version of the ORFLS program (Polić, 1968). Coordinates, individual isotropic temperature factors and inter-layer



Fig. 4. The hendecahedron (or bicapped trigonal prism) around the zirconium atom; the mirror plane is shaded.

scale factors were varied and the resulting R index was about 0.12 (including unobserved reflexions). On introducing anisotropic temperature factors the R index dropped to 0.09 (including unobserved reflexions). Refinement was continued with unit weights until the parameter shifts were less than the estimated standard deviations. Atomic scattering factors for N, F and Zr were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystal*lography* (1962). The final values of atomic coordinates and anisotropic thermal parameters with their standard deviations are given in Table 2, and the observed and calculated structure factors in Table 3. Some thermal parameters (Table 2), especially for F(3), are high and physically quite unlikely, and are probably due to imperfections in the crystals or an error in the absorption correction. Attempts to locate hydrogen atoms were unsuccessful.

Description and discussion of the structure

The atomic numbering system is described in Table 4 and the interatomic distances and bond angles listed in Table 5. The zirconium atom exhibits eightfold coordination and the basic structural unit is a bicapped trigonal prism. The coordination polyhedron consists of one F atom in a general position - F(2) and its pair across the mirror plane, two F atoms on the twofold axes - F(3) and F(4) and with them the two F atoms related by a mirror plane, and finally two F atoms on the mirror plane - F(5) and F(6). The atoms F(3) and F(4) with their symmetry-related counterparts act as bridges between zirconium atoms, thus each prism shares two edges with two neighbouring polyhedra (Fig. 2). The polyhedra are connected in a zigzag infinite chain-like fashion with the chains running along the [001] direction at levels y=0 and $y=\frac{1}{2}$ (Fig. 3).

Table 4. Numbering of the atoms

Designation of the atoms is according to the Busing, Martin & Levy (1964) *ORFFE* program. Only those atoms are numbered which are mentioned in the Tables and Figures.

Atoms	Coordinates			
N(1·00)	x	у	z	
F(3.01), F(5.01), Zr(7.01)	$\frac{1}{2}-x$	$\frac{1}{2} - y$	-z	
F(3·02), F(4·02)	$\frac{1}{2} + x$	$\frac{1}{2} + y$	z	
F(4·03)	$\frac{1}{2} + x$	$\frac{1}{2} - y$	Z	
F(2·13)	$\frac{1}{2} + x + 1$	$\frac{1}{2} - y$	z	
F(2·12), F(6·12)	$\frac{1}{2} + x + 1$	$\frac{1}{2} + y$	Z	
N(1·04)	1-x	У	1-z	

Table 5. Interatomic distances, angles and their standard deviations (in parentheses)

Within Zr-polyhedron	Distance
Zr(7.01) - F(2.12)	2·15 (0·01) Å
Zr(7.01) - F(3.02)	2·20 (0·01)
Zr(7.01) - F(4.02)	2·19 (0·01)
Zr(7.01) - F(5.01)	1.91 (0.02)
Zr(7.01) - F(6.12)	1.95 (0.01)
F(2.12) - F(2.13)	4.03 (0.02)
F(2.12) - F(5.01)	2·56 (0·01)
F(2.12) - F(6.12)	2.50 (0.01)
F(3.01) - F(3.02)	2.40 (0.05)
F(4.02) - F(4.03)	2.46(0.04)
F(3.01) - F(4.03)	2.71(0.00)
F(4.02) - F(6.12)	2.80 (0.02)
F(5.01) - F(3.02)	2.85 (0.02)
F(5.01) - F(6.12)	2.81 (0.01)
F(2.13) - F(3.01)	2.57 (0.01)
F(2·13)—F(4·03)	2.44 (0.01)
	Angle
F(3.01) - Zr(7.01) - F(3.02)	66· (1)°
F(4.02) - Zr(7.01) - F(4.03)	68.4 (0.9)
F(3.02) - Zr(7.01) - F(4.02)	76.2 (0.4)
F(5.01) - Zr(7.01) - F(3.01)	87.5 (0.4)
F(6.12) - Zr(7.01) - F(5.01)	93.3 (0.6)
F(6.12) - Zr(7.01) - F(4.03)	85.0 (0.3)
F(2.12) - Zr(7.01) - F(2.13)	140.2 (0.5)
F(2.13) - Zr(7.01) - F(4.03)	68.6 (0.5
F(2.13) - Zr(7.01) - F(3.01)	72.6 (0.5)
F(2.13) - Zr(7.01) - F(5.01)	77.9 (0.2)
F(2.13)— $Zr(7.01)$ – $F(6.12)$	75.2 (0.2)
F(3.02) - F(3.01) - F(4.03)	90.6 (0.5)
F(3.02) - F(4.02) - F(4.03)	89.4 (0.5)
F(3.02) - F(5.01) - F(3.01)	49·9 (0·9)
F(4.02) - F(6.12) - F(4.03)	52.1 (0.8)
F(5.01) - F(3.12) - F(3.01)	65.1 (0.5)
F(5.01) - F(3.01) - F(4.03)	89.7 (0.3)
F(5.01) - F(6.12) - F(4.03)	88.7 (0.4)
F(6.12) - F(2.12) - F(5.01)	67.4 (0.3)
F(6.12) - F(5.01) - F(3.01)	89.3 (0.5)
F(6·12)—F(4·03)—F(3·01)	92.2 (0.3)
In $N_2H_6^{2+}$	
N(1·00) –N(1·04)	1·41 (0·03) Å
N···F distances shorter than 3.25 Å	
N(1.00) - F(6.04)	2.85 (0.02) A
N(1.00) - F(5.00)	2.77(0.02)
N(1.00) - F(6.00)	2.76 (0.02)
N(1.00) - F(4.03)	2.76 (0.03)
N(1.00) - F(2.00)	2.00 (0.02)
N(1.00) - F(2.13)	2.62 (0.02)
Shortest distances between the other a	toms
N(1.00) - N(1.03)	4·42 (0·01) Å
Zr(7.01) - Zr(7.02)	3.68 (0.00)

In N₂H₆ZrF₆ the zirconium polyhedron has Cs symmetry but its shape is very close to C_{2v} symmetry (Fig. 4). The maximum deviation of the lengths of pyramidal edges [with F(2·12) at the apex] from the mean value of 2·52 Å is ± 0.05 Å. The quadrilateral F(3), F(4), F(5) and F(6), which serves as the base of the pyramid, approximates a square: the deviation of angles from 90° is $\pm 2^{\circ}$ and the deviation of the edges from the average value of 2·79 Å is ± 0.08 Å. A 'free' prismatic face, formed by the atoms F(3·01), F(3·02), F(4·02) and F(4·03) has a nearly rectangular shape: the two short edges F(3·01)–F(3·02) of 2·40 Å and F(4·02)–F(4·03) of 2·46 Å are common for two neighbouring polyhedra.

The mean value of eight Zr-F bonds (Table 5) of 2.12 Å is nearly equal to the sum of the ionic radii $(r_{Zr4+}=0.80 \text{ Å}, r_{F-}=1.36 \text{ Å}, \text{Pauling}, 1960)$ but with a stretching of the Zr-F bonds to bridging fluorine atoms [Zr(7.01)-F(3.02)=2.20 and Zr(7.01)-F(4.02)=2.19 Å] and a shortening of the Zr-F bonds to fluorine atoms on a mirror plane and opposite to shared edges [Zr(7.01)-F(5.01)=1.91 and Zr(7.01)-F(6.12)=1.95 Å].

The nitrogen atoms are grouped in pairs related by twofold axes, so the N–N bonds in the $N_2H_6^{2+}$ ion are perpendicular to the twofold axes, but the configuration of the $N_2H_6^{2+}$ ion could not be predicted from its symmetry. The N–N bond length of 1·41 Å is in agreement with the values reported earlier, *e.g.* 1·43 Å in $N_2H_6(H_2PO_4)_2$ (Liminga, 1966), 1·40 Å in $N_2H_6SO_4$ (Nitta, Sakurai & Tomii, 1951), 1·42 Å in $N_2H_6F_2$ (Kronberg & Harker, 1942) and $N_2H_6Cl_2$ (Donohue & Lipscomb, 1942).

Chains of polyhedra are joined to other chains by ionic interaction between $[N_2H_6]^{2+}$ and $[ZrF_6]^{2-}$ ions and through N-H···F hydrogen bonds. There are two very short N···F distances which suggest the existence



Fig. 5. The ZrF_8 polyhedron in the $N_2H_6ZrF_6$ structure as a derivative of a square antiprism; the mirror plane is shaded.

of hydrogen bonds: $N(1.00) \cdots F(2.00)$, 2.66 Å and $N(1.00) \cdots F(2.13)$, 2.62 Å. The distance of 2.62 Å is less than the N-H···F bond length of 2.63 Å in NH_4F (Wells, 1962) and equal to the $N-H\cdots F$ distances in N₂H₆F₂ (Kronberg & Harker, 1942) and $N_2H_6TiF_6$ (Prodić, 1968). Four more fluorine atoms are rather close to the nitrogen atom. One of them, F(5.00) with a distance $N(1.00) \cdots F(5.00)$ of 2.77 Å might also be involved in $N-H\cdots F$ hydrogen bonds. This distance is quite close to the $N-H\cdots F$ value of 2.775 Å in NH₄CuTiF₇.4H₂O (de Cian, Fischer & Weiss, 1967) and 2.80 Å in NH₄HF₂ (Hadži & Thomson, 1959). The remaining three fluorine atoms F(6.00), F(6.04) and F(4.03) are disposed around the N-N bond on a plane which passes along the twofold axis, bisects the N(1.00)–N(1.04) bond and is nearly normal (83°) to this bond. The shortening of the observed distances: $N(1.00) \cdot \cdot \cdot F(4.03) = N(1.04) \cdot \cdot \cdot F(4.03) = 2.76$,

 $N(1.00) \cdots F(6.00) = N(1.04) \cdots F(6.04) = 2.76$ and N(1.00) - F(6.04) = N(1.04) - F(6.00) = 2.85 Å might be attributed to the interaction between the opposite charges on nitrogen and fluorine atoms.

The coordination number eight is very common for lanthanide and actinide ions because of their high formal charges and relatively large atomic radii, and also for early transition-metal ions – especially for those with d^0 , d^1 , d^2 and in some cases d^{10} electronic configurations. Zr^{IV} with a d^0 configuration belongs to the second group. According to the accessible literature the dodecahedron and the square antiprism (with D_{2d} and D_{4d} symmetries respectively) were the only known polyhedra for eight-coordinated zirconium. An antiprismatic arrangement of ligands has been found in Zr(AcAc)₄ (Silverton & Hoard, 1963), ZrOCl₂.8H₂O and ZrOBr₂.8H₂O (McWhan & Lundgren, 1963), α -ZrF₄ (Burbank & Bensey, 1956), Zr(IO₃)₄ (Larson & Cromer, 1961), Zr(SO₄)₂.4H₂O (Singer & Cromer, 1959), Cu₂ZrF₈.12H₂O (Fischer, Elchinger & Weiss, 1967), $Cu_3Zr_2F_{14}$. 16H₂O (Fischer & Weiss, 1967), $Zr(OH)_2SO_4$ (McWhan & Lundgren, 1966), Na₇Zr₆F₃₁ (Burns, Ellison & Levy, 1968); the dodecahedral arrangement has been established in $Zr_2(OH)_2(SO_4)_3$. $4H_2O$ (McWhan & Lundgren, 1966). Na₄Zr(C₂O₄)₄. 3H₂O (Glen, Silverton & Hoard, 1963), $Zr(OH_2) (NO_3)_2(H_2O)_4$

(McWhan & Lundgren, 1963), ZrSiO₄ (Krstanović, 1958), Li₆BeF₄ZrF₈ (Sears & Burns, 1964), K₂ZrF₆ (Bode & Teufer, 1956), K₂Zr[N(OAc)₃]₂.H₂O (Hoard, Willstadter & Silverton, 1965), ZrF₄.3H₂O (Waters, 1964), Zr₂(SO₄)₄(H₂O)₈.6H₂O (Bear & Mumme, 1969), and α - and β -Zr₂(SO₄)₄(H₂O)₈.2H₂O (Bear & Mumme, 1969). A trigonal prism with one centred face is known for seven-coordinated zirconium, *e.g.* Na₅Zr₂F₁₃ (Herak, Malčić & Manojlović, 1965).

Among the eight-coordination polyhedra the C_{2v} hendecahedron is of lower symmetry than the other two of D_{4d} and D_{2d} symmetry. The C_{2v} hendecahedron can be derived from a trigonal prism by adding two ligands out of two square faces. This type of polyhedron was first proposed by Zachariasen (Zachariasen, 1948) for some lanthanide and actinide halides.

Because of the similarity of the antiprism and hendecahedron (one. of the square faces of an antiprism is replaced by two triangles) the coordination polyhedron can be described in two ways: as a deformed squareantiprism or as a bicapped trigonal prism (hendecahedron). Fig. 5 illustrates the ZrF_8 polyhedron in the N₂H₆ZrF₆ structure as a derivative of the square antiprism. There is a large deformation in one 'square' of the antiprism obvious from adihedral angle|of151.4° between two triangles [with corners at F(5.01), F(2.13), F(6.12) and at F(6.12), F(2.12), F(5.01)] and from the set of tabulated lengths of edges (Table 5). It is therefore more realistic to describe the polyhedron around the zirconium atom in N₂H₆ZrF₆ as a bicapped trigonal prism.

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The Crystal Structure of Diethyldixanthogen

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The crystal structure of diethyldixanthogen, $(SSCOC_2H_5)_2$, is monoclinic with a=18.958 (0.005), b=4.394 (0.002), c=6.990 (0.004) Å; $\beta=107.27$ (0.03)°; the space group is P2/a and Z=2. A molecule of $(SSCOC_2H_5)_2$ consists of two almost planar $SSCOC_2H_5$ groups linked by a twofold rotation axis at a S-S distance of 2.054 (0.004) Å, which is comparable with the S-S single bond distance. The dihedral angle C-S-S-C is $107.2 (1.0)^\circ$. The molecules are held together by van der Waals sulphur-sulphur, sulphur atom-alkyl group, sulphur atom-methyl end and methyl end-methyl end contacts.

Introduction

In connexion with the study of the action of xanthate on sulphide mineral surfaces in a froth flotation process, the determination of the molecular structure of dixanthogen, an oxidation product of xanthate, is important. Dixanthogen is supposed by some authors to play an important role in making sulphide mineral surfaces hydrophobic, (1) by coating the xanthate ions already adsorbed on the mineral surfaces by van der Waals forces (Leja, 1956), or (2) by being adsorbed dissociatively on the mineral surface so that one xanthate radical is coordinated to one metal atom in the substrate (Poling & Leja, 1963). In the present paper the molecular structure of diethyldixanthogen in the crysstalline state is reported.

Crystal data

The crystallographic data for diethyldixanthogen are as follows:

Cell constants and cell volume a = 18.958 (0.005) Å, b = 4.394 (0.002), c = 6.990 (0.004), $\beta = 107.27 (0.03)^{\circ}, V = 556.1 (0.4) \text{ Å}^{3}.$ Space group P2/aFormula units per cell: Z = 2Observed and calculated density $d_{o} = 1.30 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ (flotation) $d_{c} = 1.28 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$

Linear absorption coefficient for Cu radiation $\mu = 85.54 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

Experimental

Diethyldixanthogen was obtained by mixing aqueous solutions of purified potassium ethylxanthate and iodine drop by drop. The light yellowish green substance obtained in the form of an emulsion was dissolved in ethanol and crystallized by evaporation of the solvent at a temperature of about 15° C. The crystal, in the shape of a rectangular plate, was stable in air up to the melting point $(28\cdot0^{\circ}$ C). The specimen used had a cross section of 0.35×0.85 mm in the *b*-axis setting and 0.14×0.08 mm in the *c*-axis setting of the crystal.

Equi-inclination photographs of the 0 to 4th layers around the b axis and the 0 to 5th layers around the c axis were taken with the use of an integrating cassette at a temperature of $12\pm 2^{\circ}$ C with Ni-filtered Cu Ka radiation. The intensity measurement was carried out with a microphotometer. Of the recorded 1121 independent reflexions, about 88% of the total number of those observable with Cu Ka radiation, 353 reflexions were too weak to give any numerical values. Observed intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization factors. An absorption correction, in which the crystal was approximated to a cylinder, and a spot-size correction (Phillips, 1956) were applied, but no extinction correction was made. The unit-cell dimensions were determined by the use of a Straumanis-type cassette.

Determination of the crystal structure

Systematic extinction showed the crystal to be monoclinic with space group P2/a or Pa. Because the unit