# Two Modifications of Cobalt Dipotassium Tetrachloride 

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#### Abstract

High-temperature $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ : orthorhombic, $a=26 \cdot 838$ (3), $b=12 \cdot 406$ (1), $c=7 \cdot 262$ (1) $\AA$, space group Pna2 $1, Z=12$, adopts a slightly modified $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ structure. Low-temperature $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ : monoclinic, $a=6.801$ (1), $b=9.569$ (1), $c=12.757$ (1) $\AA$, $\beta=107 \cdot 0$ (1) ${ }^{\circ}$, space group $P 2_{1} / c, Z=4$, adopts a strongly distorted $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ structure.


Introduction. The structure determination of $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ is part of an investigation of structural relationships and magnetic properties of ternary halides $\mathrm{A}_{x} \mathrm{~B}_{y} \mathrm{X}_{z}$ with A an alkali metal, B a first-row transition element or an alkaline-earth metal and $\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{Cl}, \mathrm{Br}$ or I .

The phase diagram of the system $\mathrm{KCl}-\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ was constructed by Seifert (1961). Apart from $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ (m.p. $436^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) it shows another compound, $\mathrm{KCoCl}_{3}$, but not the phase transition we observe for $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$. By melting stoichiometric amounts of KCl and $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ in an evacuated quartz tube and annealing the mixture at $400^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for one week, the orthorhombic modification of $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ is obtained. After a few months this phase changes at room temperature into the monoclinic modification. The former is again obtained after annealing the latter at $400^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The two phases are easily recognized by their X-ray powder diagrams. We were unable to measure the transition temperature by means of DTA, but visual inspection of samples after heating suggests a phase transition between 350 and $360^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

Lamotte \& Vermeire (1975) report that powder diffractograms of $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ and $\left(\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right)_{2 n C l} \mathrm{ZnCl}_{4}$ can be indexed on the basis of an orthorhombic cell with axes $a=8.90, b=12.39$ and $c=7.25(\AA)$ for $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ and $a=9 \cdot 20, b=12 \cdot 56$ and $c=7 \cdot 17(\AA)$ for $\left(\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right)_{2} \mathrm{ZnCl}_{4}$. In both cases our diagrams show powder lines between $d=3.47$ and $3.51 \AA$, which cannot be indexed with these cell parameters. On tripling the $a$ parameter these reflexions can be indexed as 202, 231 and 112. Klug \& Sears (1945) also report a tripled a parameter for $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{ZnCl}_{4}$, based on single-crystal measurements.

Dry KCl was obtained by heating in vacuo at $400^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and dry $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ by heating $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2} .6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in a stream of dry HCl gas at $400^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Low- and high-temperature $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ were obtained by melting a stoichiometric mixture of KCl and $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ in an evacuated sealed quartz tube and slowly lowering the temperature over the course of a few days to room temperature with a temperature gradient of about $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, with the higher temperature at the top of the melt. All manipulations of
$\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ were carried out in a glovebox filled with dry $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ or under dry paraffin oil. The crystallized blue material was broken into pieces and crystals were selected. A series of Weissenberg photographs showed some crystals with orthorhombic and some with monoclinic symmetry. One suitable crystal of each phase was collected and measured by means of an Enraf-Nonius three-circle single-crystal diffractometer. Intensities were recorded by the $\theta-2 \theta$ scan method for all reflexions with 0 between 3 and $30^{\circ}$.

Monochromatic (graphite) Mo $K \alpha$ radiation was used for measuring the intensities. Background intensities were determined at $0 \pm \frac{1}{2} \Delta^{\circ}$, with $\Delta=0 \cdot 7+1 \cdot 3$ $\tan \theta^{\circ}$. The mean counting time was 25 s for each background and 50 s for the scan. Standard deviations were calculated from counting statistics. Absorption corrections were applied with a computer program written by de Graaff (1973), and new standard deviations ( $\sigma_{F}$ ) were calculated taking into account the inaccuracy of the absorption correction and attenuation factors of the filters used. Non-equivalent significant reflexions were reduced to $F$ values and Wilson plots were calculated, yielding approximate values for the scale factors and overall isotropic temperature parameters, $B$. Table 1 gives the crystal and diffraction data.
According to the reflexion conditions for orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$, another space group (Pnam) is possible, which the Patterson synthesis proved to be incorrect.

Table 1. Crystal and diffraction data for $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$

|  | Orthorhombic | Monoclinic |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $a$ | 26.838 (3) $\AA$ | 6.801 (1) $\AA$ |
| $b$ | $12 \cdot 406$ (1) | 9.569 (1) |
| $c$ | $7 \cdot 262$ (1) | 12.757 (1) |
| $\beta$ |  | 107.0 (1) ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |
| $Z$ | 12 | 4 |
| Space group | $\mathrm{Pna2}_{1}$ | $P 2_{1} / \mathrm{c}$ |
| Measured reflexions | 7502 | 3447 |
| Independent reflexions | 4017 | 2447 |
| Significant reflexions | 2141 | 1655 |
| Reflexion conditions | $\begin{aligned} & 0 k l: k+l=2 n \\ & h 0 l: h=2 n \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & h 0 l: l=2 n \\ & 0 k 0: k=2 n \end{aligned}$ |
| Absorption coefficient ( $\mu$ ) | $44.1 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ | $44.8 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ |
| Transmission factor | 0.35-0.68 | 0.54-0.68 |
| Crystal dimensions | $0.2 \times 0.2 \times 0.1 \mathrm{~mm}$ | $0.15 \times 0.14 \times 0.1 \mathrm{~mm}$ |

Table 2. Positional parameters ( $\times 10^{4}$ ) and anisotropic thermal parameters ( $\times 10^{3}$ ) for orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$

|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{11}$ | $U_{22}$ | $U_{33}$ | $2 U_{21}$ | $2 U_{23}$ | $2 U_{31}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K(1) | 442 (1) | 808 (3) | 7879 (7) | 36 (2) | 78 (3) | 92 (3) | -16(3) | -10 (6) | -6 (4) |
| K(2) | 3801 (1) | 836 (4) | 7662 (7) | 41 (2) | 98 (3) | 74 (3) | 2 (4) | -8(5) | 21 (4) |
| K(3) | 7110 (1) | 822 (3) | 7246 (7) | 33 (2) | 63 (2) | 71 (2) | -5 (3) | -8(5) | -11(3) |
| K(4) | 3322 (1) | 6883 (2) | 7249 (5) | 38 (1) | 33 (2) | 57 (2) | 3 (2) | 0 (3) | 11 (3) |
| K(5) | 6663 (1) | 6872 (2) | 7428 (5) | 38 (1) | 35 (2) | 60 (2) | -4 (2) | 4 (3) | -8(3) |
| K(6) | 9991 (1) | 6884 (2) | 7954 (5) | 37 (1) | 30 (2) | 36 (1) | -3(2) | 10 (3) | 6 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)$ | 720 (1) | 4199 (2) | 7500* | 23 (1) | 30 (1) | 30 (1) | 3 (1) | -2 (2) | 0 (1) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)$ | 4051 (1) | 4178 (2) | 7800 (3) | 25 (1) | 26 (1) | 34 (1) | 1 (1) | 2 (2) | 2 (1) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)$ | 7402 (1) | 4181 (2) | 7351 (1) | 28 (1) | 27 (1) | 27 (1) | -4 (1) | -4 (2) | 1 (1) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 9917 (1) | 4445 (2) | 6752 (5) | 29 (1) | 49 (2) | 47 (2) | 11 (2) | -24 (3) | - 10 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 1132 (1) | 5755 (2) | 8166 (5) | 34 (1) | 31 (2) | 78 (2) | -18(2) | -10(4) | 13 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | 839 (1) | 3017 (2) | 9836 (5) | 61 (2) | 52 (2) | 43 (2) | 44 (2) | 37 (3) | 10 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | 1105 (1) | 3549 (3) | 4941 (5) | 38 (1) | 75 (2) | 35 (2) | 18 (3) | -37 (3) | 4 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(5)$ | 3228 (1) | 4385 (2) | 8170 (7) | 23 (1) | 58 (2) | 94 (3) | -1 (2) | 33 (4) | -4 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | 4449 (1) | 5778 (3) | 8139 (8) | 43 (2) | 31 (2) | 157 (4) | -28 (3) | -6 (5) | -2 (5) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(7)$ | 4341 (1) | 3074 (4) | 18 (7) | 65 (2) | 115 (3) | 56 (3) | 83 (4) | 89 (5) | 11 (4) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | 4299 (1) | 3475 (3) | 5147 (5) | 104 (3) | 101 (3) | 42 (2) | 112 (5) | -47 (5) | -5 (4) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(9)$ | 6589 (1) | 4351 (2) | 8077 (5) | 27 (1) | 60 (2) | 84 (3) | -3 (2) | 40 (4) | 21 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | 7798 (1) | 5752 (3) | 6690 (7) | 42 (2) | 38 (2) | 61 (2) | - 20 (3) | 9 (4) | -8 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(11)$ | 7778 (1) | 3606 (3) | 21 (5) | 56 (2) | 54 (2) | 37 (2) | 15 (3) | 14 (3) | -25 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(12)$ | 7555 (1) | 2935 (2) | 5178 (7) | 68 (2) | 46 (2) | 38 (2) | 8 (3) | - 26 (3) | 5 (3) |

* This value was kept fixed during the refinements.

Table 3. Positional parameters ( $\times 10^{4}$ ) and anisotropic thermal parameters ( $\times 10^{4}$ ) for monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$

|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{11}$ | $U_{22}$ | $U_{33}$ | $2 U_{21}$ | $2 U_{23}$ | $2 U_{31}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K(1) | 2247 (3) | 8555 (1) | 4935 (1) | 475 (9) | 356 (7) | 379 (7) | 126 (13) | -99 (11) | -82 (13) |
| K(2) | 4036 (3) | 961 (1) | 1646 (1) | 548 (10) | 364 (6) | 418 (7) | -25 (13) | - 143 (11) | 394 (14) |
| Co | 1169 (1) | 3537 (1) | 3197 (1) | 297 (4) | 278 (3) | 199 (3) | - 27 (7) | -2 (6) | 127 (6) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 2131 (3) | 3997 (1) | 1660 (1) | 389 (9) | 381 (7) | 235 (6) | 27 (13) | 106 (10) | 210 (12) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 2252 (3) | 6884 (1) | 7210 (1) | 303 (8) | 402 (7) | 413 (8) | -74 (13) | - 164 (12) | 152 (14) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | 3011 (3) | 1626 (1) | 3998 (2) | 478 (10) | 436 (8) | 408 (8) | 205 (15) | 328 (14) | 196 (15) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | 2061 (3) | 5403 (1) | 4324 (1) | 731 (13) | 375 (8) | 327 (7) | - 285 (16) | -239 (12) | 395 (16) |

Table 4. Distances and angles in orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$
Cobalt-chlorine distances $(\AA)$

| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $2.243(4)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $2.277(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $2.265(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $2.274(4)$ |


| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(5)$ | $2 \cdot 240(3)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | $2 \cdot 267(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(7)$ | $2 \cdot 253(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | $2 \cdot 217(5)$ |


| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(9)$ | $2 \cdot 254(4)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | $2 \cdot 271(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(11)$ | $2 \cdot 299(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(12)$ | $2 \cdot 247(4)$ |

Cobalt-chlorine angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$

| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $113 \cdot 8(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $113 \cdot 9(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $106 \cdot 7(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $108 \cdot 7(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $104 \cdot 7(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $108 \cdot 6(2)$ |
| Potassium-chlorine distances $(\AA)$ up to $4 \cdot 1 \AA$ |  |


| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(9)$ | 3.089 (4) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 3.086 (4) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(5)$ | 3.087 (4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $3 \cdot 267$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 272$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(11)$ | $3 \cdot 203$ (6) |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | 3.318 (8) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3 \cdot 294$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | 3.238 (7) |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | $3 \cdot 402$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(11)$ | $3 \cdot 311$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(12)$ | $3 \cdot 249$ (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | 3.455 (8) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | $3 \cdot 410$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3 \cdot 269$ (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(7)$ | 3.613 (6) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(7)$ | $3 \cdot 569$ (7) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 341$ (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | 3.758 (6) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | 3.980 (6) | $\mathrm{K}(3)-\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | 4.043 (7) |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | $3 \cdot 831$ (8) | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 4.002 (6) |  |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(12)$ | 4.095 (6) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $3 \cdot 180$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(11)$ | $3 \cdot 153$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(7)$ | $3 \cdot 153$ (6) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(5)$ | $3 \cdot 180$ (4) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(9)$ | $3 \cdot 169$ (4) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $3 \cdot 156$ (4) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(12)$ | $3 \cdot 182$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(12)$ | $3 \cdot 181$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | $3 \cdot 173$ (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3 \cdot 234$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(7)$ | $3 \cdot 216$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | 3.179 (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | $3 \cdot 280$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(8)$ | 3.281 (5) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $3 \cdot 222$ (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | $3 \cdot 382$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 315$ (4) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(6)$ | $3 \cdot 248$ (5) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(9)$ | $3 \cdot 403$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(10)$ | $3 \cdot 390$ (4) | $\mathrm{K}(6)$ - $\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3 \cdot 319$ (4) |
| $\mathrm{K}(4)-\mathrm{Cl}(11)$ | $3 \cdot 421$ (5) | $\mathrm{K}(5)-\mathrm{Cl}(5)$ | $3 \cdot 476$ (6) | $\mathrm{K}(6)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 371$ (4) |

All calculations were carried out on the Leiden University $360-65$ (and later 370-158) IBM computer, with a set of computer programs written or modified by Rutten-Keulemans and de Graaff. Scattering factors and anomalous dispersion for the ions were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974). The function minimized during the least-squares refinement was $\sum w_{F}\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{c}\right|\right)^{2}$ using the weighting scheme $w_{F}=1 / \sigma_{F}^{2} \cdot R_{w}$ is defined by $\left[\sum_{F} w_{F}\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{c}\right|\right)^{2} /\right.$ $\left.\sum_{F} w_{F} F_{o}^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}$ and $R$ by $\sum_{F}\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{c}\right|\right) / \sum_{F} F_{o}$.

Orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ : Interpretation of the threedimensional Patterson synthesis proved to be a difficult task, because of the superstructure in the a direction. Only the Co ions could be unequivocally determined. The K ions and one Cl tetrahedron were allocated assuming that the structure resembled the $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ structure. After a few cycles of least-squares refinement $R_{w}$ dropped to 0.4 . The remaining atoms could be found by calculating minimum functions and threedimensional Fourier maps. With isotropic temperature factors and full-matrix refinement, $R_{w}$ dropped to $0 \cdot 1$. $R_{w}$ dropped to 0.039 and $R$ to 0.038 after full-matrix refinement with anisotropic temperature factors. Refinement of the inverted structure results in a somewhat higher $R_{w}(0.040)$. A difference Fourier synthesis revealed no significant peaks. Positional parameters and anisotropic thermal parameters are listed in Table 2.*

Monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ : From a three-dimensional Patterson synthesis the positions of the Co , all the Cl and one of the K ions could be determined. These positions, isotropic temperature parameters and blockdiagonal matrix refinement were used to reduce $R_{w}$ to $0 \cdot 32$. With a Fourier synthesis the other K position could be determined and $R_{w}$ dropped to 0.08 with isotropic temperature factors and block-diagonal refinement. $R_{w}$ fell to $0.041(R=0.051)$ after full-matrix refinement with anisotropic temperature factors. A difference Fourier synthesis revealed no significant peaks. The positional parameters and the anisotropic temperature factors are listed in Table 3.*

Discussion. Tables 4 and 5 show $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances and angles and $\mathrm{K}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances for orthorhombic and monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ respectively.

Idealized orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ axes can be derived from $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ axes (Pnam setting) by the following transformation:

$$
\left(\begin{array}{l}
a^{\prime} \\
b^{\prime} \\
c^{\prime}
\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
3 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{l}
a \\
b \\
c
\end{array}\right)
$$

where $a, b$ and $c$ are the axes of $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and $a^{\prime}, b^{\prime}$ and $c^{\prime}$ are the axes of idealized orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$.

[^0]Table 5. Distances and angles in monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$

| Cobalt-chlorine distances $(\AA)$ |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $2.284(2)$ | $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $2.283(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $2.267(2)$ | $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $2.261(2)$ |

Cobalt-chlorine angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ )

| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $111 \cdot 74(6)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $106.34(7)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $107.65(6)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $110.63(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $110.61(7)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(3)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $109.73(6)$ |

$\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(4) \quad 110.61$ (7)
$\mathrm{Cl}(3)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}(4) \quad 109.73$ (6)
Potassium-chlorine distances $(\AA)$ up to $3.5 \AA$

| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $3 \cdot 105(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 148(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3 \cdot 109(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3 \cdot 155(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $3 \cdot 117(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $3 \cdot 183(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $3 \cdot 230(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 255(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $3 \cdot 270(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | $3.284(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 313(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $3.334(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{K}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $3 \cdot 503(2)$ | $\mathrm{K}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $3 \cdot 421(2)$ |

The $\mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ tetrahedra and K ions are more irregularly distributed than the $\mathrm{SO}_{4}$ tetrahedra and K ions in $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$; this results in lower coordination numbers for the K ions (nine and ten in $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ ). This effect is commonly observed in $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$-like structures. $\mathrm{K}(1)$, $\mathrm{K}(2)$ and $\mathrm{K}(3)$ are in irregular six coordination; $\mathrm{K}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances range from 3.089 to $3.613 \AA$ (mean $3 \cdot 304 \AA) . K(4), K(5)$ and $K(6)$ are surrounded by Cl ions at the apices of an Archimedian antiprism. K-Cl distances range from 3.152 to 3.476 ( $\AA$ ) (mean $3.261 \AA$ ), and the $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances from 2.217 to $2.299 \AA$ (mean $2 \cdot 259 \AA$ A).

Idealized monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ axes can be derived from $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ axes (Pnam setting) by the following transformation:

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c}
a^{\prime} \\
b^{\prime} \\
c^{\prime}
\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & \overline{1}
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{l}
a \\
b \\
c
\end{array}\right)
$$

where $a^{\prime}, b^{\prime}$ and $c^{\prime}$ are the axes of idealized monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$, and $a, b$ and $c$ are the axes of $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$. In $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, b / c$ is almost $\downarrow 3$; thus the idealized angle $\beta$ in monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ is $120^{\circ}$. The tetrahedra are rotated more than in orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ and are moved along with the K ions, resulting in an irregular seven coordination for $\mathrm{K} ; \mathrm{K}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances range from 3.105 to $3.503 \AA$ (mean $3.245 \AA$ ), and the $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances from $2 \cdot 261$ to $2 \cdot 284 \AA$ (mean $2 \cdot 274 \AA$ ). We are not aware of other compounds with the same structure as monoclinic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$. In both cases the anisotropic

Table 6. Some compounds with $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$-like structures

|  | Space group | $a(\AA)$ | $b(\AA)$ | $c(\AA)$ | $\beta$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}{ }^{(a)}$ | Pnma | 7.456 | 5.776 | 10.08 |  |
| $\mathrm{~K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}{ }^{(b)}$ | $P n a 2_{1}$ | 26.838 | 12.406 | 7.261 |  |
| $\mathrm{~K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}{ }^{(b)}$ | $P 2_{1} / c$ | 6.801 | 9.569 | 12.757 | $107 \cdot 0^{\circ}$ |
| $\mathrm{Rb}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}{ }^{(c)}$ | $P n m a$ | 9.272 | 7.283 | 12.723 |  |
| $\mathrm{Cs}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}{ }^{(d)}$ | Pnma | 9.737 | 7.792 | 12.972 |  |
| $\mathrm{~K}_{2} \mathrm{ZnCl}_{4}{ }^{(e)}$ | Pma2 | 26.70 | 12.26 | 7.28 |  |
| $\left(\mathrm{NH}_{4}\right)_{2} \mathrm{ZnCl}_{4}{ }^{(f)}$ |  | 9.20 | 7.17 | 12.56 |  |

(a) Robinson (1958). (b) This work. (c) Amit, Horowitz \& Makovsky (1972). (d) Poray-Koshits (1954). (e) Klug \& Sears (1945). (f) Lamotte \& Vermeire (1975).
temperature factors are unusually high; this probably indicates that there is some disorder in these compounds.
In Table 6 some other compounds with $\beta-\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$-like structures are listed. The structure of $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{ZnCl}_{4}$ is not yet known, but the agreement between the axes of this compound and orthorhombic $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CoCl}_{4}$ suggests that the structures may be almost the same.

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# Hydrogen-Bond Motifs of Carboxylic Acids: the $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$-Form of Monochloroacetic Acid 

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#### Abstract

C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}\), monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / c ; a=5 \cdot 380$ (1), $b=19.150$ (4), $c=7.860$ (2) $\AA, \beta=109.14$ (10) $; ~ Z=8$, $D_{c}=1.64 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$. The structure consists of centrosymmetric tetramers formed by hydrogen bonding between carboxyl groups of the two independent molecules. Corresponding bond distances and angles involving non-hydrogen atoms of the independent molecules are very similar; their conformations differ: one molecule is planar, the other has a dihedral angle of $20 \cdot 3^{\circ}$.

Introduction. $\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ exists in three distinct crystalline varieties (Aumeras \& Minangoy, 1948). The $\alpha$-form is the stable modification at ambient conditions with a m.p. of $64^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, the $\beta$ - and $\gamma$-forms are metastable with m.p.'s of 54 and $51^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ respectively. From IR and Raman spectroscopy it was concluded that the metastable $\beta$-form crystallizes in the cyclic centrosymmetric hydrogen-bonded dimer type (Sinha, Katon \& Jakobsen, 1975), whereas the results for the $\alpha$-form are inconsistent with a dimer structure and strongly indicate a hydrogen-bond motif with a polymeric nature (Sinha, Katon \& Jakobsen, 1974). The analysis of the $\alpha$-form was performed to elucidate the hydrogen-bond motif.

Prismatic crystals were obtained by sublimation in vacuo. A crystal $0.3 \times 0.4 \times 0.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ was selected and


Table 1. Fractional coordinates $\left(\times 10^{4}\right.$ for $\mathrm{Cl}, \mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{C} ; \times 10^{3}$ for H$)$ and anisotropic thermal parameters $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ of the non-hydrogen atoms
The estimated standard deviations are given in parentheses and refer to the last decimal position of respective values. The anisotropic temperature factor is of the form $\exp \left[-2 \pi^{2}\left(a^{* 2} h^{2} U_{11}+\ldots+2 b^{*} c^{*} k l U_{23}\right)\right]$.

| Molecule $1 \times U_{22} U_{33}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cl | -379 (2) | 6706 (1) | 9904 (1) | 722 (6) | 560 (5) | 498 (5) | -116 (4) | 353 (4) | -107 (4) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | 3057 (5) | 6596 (1) | 6272 (3) | 625 (15) | 415 (14) | 541 (14) | -97 (11) | 334 (12) | -61 (10) |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | 782 (5) | 5806 (1) | 7228 (4) | 706 (16) | 340 (11) | 735 (17) | - 110 (11) | 454 (14) | -89 (11) |
| C(1) | 1669 (6) | 6384 (2) | 7276 (4) | 426 (15) | 345 (15) | 379 (15) | 11 (12) | 158 (13) | 21 (12) |
| C(2) | 1461 (9) | 6961 (2) | 8517 (5) | 841 (29) | 394 (18) | 511 (21) | -71 (18) | 373 (20) | -21 (15) |
| H(1) | 322 (7) | 713 (2) | 925 (5) | 3.8 |  |  |  |  |  |
| H(2) | 62 (7) | 730 (2) | 786 (5) | 3.8 |  |  |  |  |  |
| H(3) | 302 (7) | 631 (2) | 549 (5) | 3.7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Molecule 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cl | -6497 (2) | 3409 (1) | 6768 (1) | 529 (5) | 422 (4) | 696 (6) | -115 (4) | 274 (4) | -59 (4) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | -3047 (5) | 5177 (1) | 8216 (3) | 596 (15) | 518 (14) | 589 (15) | -187(12) | 361 (12) | - 190 (12) |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | -2747 (5) | 4434 (1) | 6128 (3) | 564 (14) | 448 (13) | 564 (14) | -96(11) | 350 (12) | -119 (11) |
| C(1) | -3783 (6) | 4623 (2) | 7186 (4) | 369 (15) | 396 (15) | 402 (15) | -6 (12) | 166 (13) | 2 (12) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)$ | -6106 (7) | 4282 (2) | 7501 (6) | 499 (20) | 396 (17) | 659 (23) | -66 (15) | 324 (18) | -70 (16) |
| H(1) | -611 (6) | 430 (2) | 873 (5) | $3 \cdot 6$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| H(2) | -741 (7) | 451 (2) | 688 (5) | $3 \cdot 6$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| H(3) | -157 (7) | 546 (2) | 806 (5) | $3 \cdot 9$ |  |  |  |  |  |


[^0]:    * A list of structure factors has been deposited with the British Library Lending Division as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 31934 ( 11 pp., 1 microfiche). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 13 White Friars, Chester CH1 1NZ, England.

