

Book review

Landolt-Börnstein. Numerical Data and Functional Relationships in Science and Technology. New Series (Ed. in Chief, K.-H. Hellwege). Group III, Crystal and Solid State Physics. Vol. 7 (Eds. K.-H. Hellwege and A.M. Hellwege). Crystal Structure Data of Inorganic Compounds; by W. Pies and A. Weiss, Part a, Key Elements F, Cl, Br, I (VII Main Group): Halides and Complex Halides, Part g. References for III/7. Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York. Part a, 1973, 647 pages, DM436.00; Part g, 1974, 457 pages, DM 220.00.

Vol 1/4 of the 6th Edition of Landolt-Börnstein, published in 1955, presented all the crystal structure data for organic (ca. 1085) and inorganic (ca. 4300) compounds in 160 pages. The presentation in the New Series requires about 7500 pages, spread over 4 volumes comprising 12 separately bound parts. Four of these 12 have previously appeared, viz.: Vols. III/5a and III/5b (Organic Crystals; ca. 7850 compounds) in 1971, Vol. III/6 (Elements and Intermetallic Phases; ca. 9540 substances), also in 1971, and Vol. III/8 (Epitactic Systems; ca. 3700 systems) in 1972. The data on inorganic crystals (> 18000 compounds) are to appear as Vol. III/7, in 8 sub-volumes (III/7a...h). (It is noteworthy that the ratio of organic to inorganic compounds studied has risen very substantially in the past 18 years or so, but perhaps less than one might have expected.) The first of these sub-volumes, III/7a, now published, covers halides and complex halides, the space groups and lattice constants being listed along with some additional information. The tables contain the "best" data as judged by the authors, but other values considered reliable are given in footnotes. The references for the sub-volumes III/7a...f are given in sub-volume IIIg, which has now appeared so that the references III/7a are immediately available.

This series is essential in any laboratory seriously concerned with details of structure, and a debt is owed to the authors and editors for their painstaking work.

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