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Journal of Solid State Chemistry 178 (2005) 2452–2474

**JOURNAL OF SOLID STATE CHEMISTRY** 

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# Interpenetrating metal-organic and inorganic 3D networks: a computer-aided systematic investigation. Part II [1]. Analysis of the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database (ICSD)

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Received 3 March 2005; received in revised form 18 May 2005; accepted 25 May 2005 Available online 11 July 2005

#### Abstract

Interpenetration in metal-organic and inorganic networks has been investigated by a systematic analysis of the crystallographic structural databases. We have used a version of TOPOS (a package for multipurpose crystallochemical analysis) adapted for searching for interpenetration and based on the concept of Voronoi–Dirichlet polyhedra and on the representation of a crystal structure as a reduced finite graph. In this paper, we report comprehensive lists of interpenetrating inorganic 3D structures from the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database (ICSD), inclusive of 144 Collection Codes for equivalent interpenetrating nets, analyzed on the basis of their topologies. Distinct Classes, corresponding to the different modes in which individual identical motifs can interpenetrate, have been attributed to the entangled structures. Interpenetrating nets of different nature as well as interpenetrating H-bonded nets were also examined.

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Keywords: Network topology; Interpenetration; Inorganic structures

## 1. Introduction

A great variety of interpenetrating networks and entangled extended arrays are currently produced within the *areas* of inorganic and coordination chemistry, especially due to the intensive search for new functional materials. The analysis and rationalization of all these species can be a difficult and time-consuming work because of their ever growing number and for their increasing structural complexity, as evidenced by the continuous finding of many types of entanglements of individual motifs, particularly in the field of crystal engineering of coordination polymers, or metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) [\[1,2\].](#page-17-0) 'Interpenetrating networks'

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[\[1,3\]](#page-17-0) are nowadays the more numerous entangled arrays, that need for a classification of the topology of the individual nets [\[4–8\],](#page-17-0) as well as of the 'topology of interpenetration' [\[1,3,9\]](#page-17-0), presently a not well explored field of chemical topology, but of fundamental relevance in the perspective to establish useful relationships between structure and properties. This troublesome analysis, however, can be facilitated by means of some computer-aided procedure.

We have recently described the use of the TOPOS package [\[1,10\]](#page-17-0) for the automatic investigation of interpenetrated 3D metal-organic architectures in the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD). The investigation has produced a comprehensive list of 301 Refcodes, showing a variety of topological types and interpenetration degrees, and has allowed to assign different classes depending on the interpenetration relations of the distinct nets. The file of interpenetrating networks produced by Batten [\(http://web.chem.monash.edu.au/](http://web.chem.monash.edu.au/Department/Staff/Batten/Intptn.htm)

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 $0022-4596/\$$  - see front matter  $\odot$  2005 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. doi:10.1016/j.jssc.2005.05.029

[Department/Staff/Batten/Intptn.htm\)](http://web.chem.monash.edu.au/Department/Staff/Batten/Intptn.htm) [\[9\]](#page-18-0) was very useful for checking and improving the TOPOS program; all the cases quoted therein and 49 additional examples were found automatically with our program.

We report here the results of the analysis of interpenetration of 3D nets in the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database (ICSD, release 2005/1 with 86308 entries). Moreover, we have included in this analysis also the search for H-bonded interpenetrating nets, thanks to a recent improvement of the package. The same classification previously introduced in Part I [\[1\]](#page-17-0) has been applied also to these species and the peculiar features of interpenetration in these inorganic materials have been discussed and compared with those observed in metal-organic architectures.

# 2. Automatic searching for 3D interpenetration in ICSD with TOPOS

The theoretical approach to the network analysis with the TOPOS program, based on the concept of Voronoi–Dirichlet polyhedron (VDP) and on the description of a crystal structure as a 'reduced' (or 'labelled quotient') finite graph, as well as the computational method employed for searching for interpenetration in 3D networks, have been previously described [\[10\]](#page-18-0).

Some recent improvements of TOPOS are the following ones:

- (i) an analysis of H-bonds and construction of the relevant adjacency matrix as described later (when H atoms are not reported TOPOS finds their ideal locations);
- (ii) a new extended list of more than 1000 reference nets classified according to the three letter designation proposed by O'Keeffe [\[6c, 6d, 6e, 11\]](#page-17-0) (very useful, inter alia, also for the classification of noninterpenetrated networks);
- (iii) calculation of size of minimum circuits  $(n_{min})$  to which every independent graph edge (chemical bond) belongs. This parameter is useful to automatically separate cluster groups in augmented or decorated nets. Indeed, the links between clusters have greater  $n_{\text{min}}$  values than other graph edges;
- (iv) advanced graphical interface. All the structural diagrams in this paper were produced with TOPOS.

The peculiar aspects of the investigation of inorganic structures with TOPOS are discussed later.

## 2.1. Output parameters and interpenetration classes

In order to characterize interpenetration phenomena TOPOS provides a set of interpenetration output

parameters that were proven to be useful in the analysis of the CSD files. They are summarized here in [Table 1.](#page-2-0)

The above descriptors have allowed us to classify each case according to three Classes and their Subclasses (see [Tables 2 and 3](#page-2-0)). This is a crystallographic approach to the 'topology of interpenetration': the analysis of the crystal structures has evidenced distinct Classes corresponding to the different modes in which individual identical motifs can interpenetrate, that can be represented by the operations generating the overall array from a single net. Thus, Classes are defined independently from the network topology.

Class Ia is the largest one in both databases [\[12\]](#page-18-0). The minimum values for Z are a strict consequence of our definitions of the Classes. Odd numbers for Z are observed in Classes Ia and IIa only. In the second Class this is quite exceptional [none example in ICSD and only one in CSD (3-fold NIGLUK)].

An example of Class IIb has been observed for the first time in ICSD [Eglestonite (Collection code 71900), see later].

# 2.2. Methods for the analysis of net connectivity in ICSD  $[13]$

The problem of a correct determination of crystal structure connectivity (or an adjacency matrix of corresponding infinite graph) is particularly typical for inorganic compounds. Coordination numbers of atoms often are fairly great and cannot be unambiguously determined due to intricacy of their coordination spheres. For instance, alkali metals or atoms with lone electron pairs usually have at least two coordination spheres with fuzzy boundaries [\[14\].](#page-18-0) Obviously, dealing with net topology, we need to specify what kind of interatomic bonds is taken into account. In other words, most of the crystal structures can be described at several representation levels; each level corresponds to a set of criteria determining the structure connectivity. In the general case many representation levels are possible; some of them can be chemically unreasonable, but show an interesting topology. Thus, sodium metaborate  $Na<sub>3</sub>B<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>$  (Collection code 15967) is an example of crystal structure with chemically unambiguous topology: both cations have well-determined and narrow coordination spheres  $(2.515-2.590 \text{ Å}$  for seven Na–O bonds and  $1.337-1.397 \text{ Å}$  for three B-O bonds). At this representation level  $Na<sub>3</sub>B<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>$  consists of a single 3D net. However, if one considers only two shortest Na–O bonds, of length  $2.515 \text{A}$ , keeping all B–O bonds, the single net falls into four interpenetrated nets that belong to the very rare topological Class IIIa.

We could mention here also the numerous structures of the Zircon,  $Zr(SiO<sub>4</sub>)$ , type (Sp.Gr. I4<sub>1</sub>/amd, ca. 200) Collection codes) and of the Scheelite,  $Ca(WO<sub>4</sub>)$ , type (Sp.Gr. I4<sub>1</sub>/a, ca. 140 Collection codes). In both  $ABO<sub>4</sub>$ 

<span id="page-2-0"></span>



Table 2

Classes of interpenetration of equivalent nets



<sup>a</sup>Speculative and not (never?) yet observed classes.

Table 3

Allowed numbers of equivalent 3D nets in Classes of interpenetration				
----------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--



<sup>a</sup>Prime numbers are allowed only in class Ia.<br><sup>b</sup>This formula assumes  $Z_p = 2$  for all PIVs, and fits to all known structures. More general formula and other details concerning PIVs will be discussed in a future paper.

Any possible order of the symmetry element.

families the B atoms are 4-connected while the A atoms show 8-coordination with two sets of four equivalent A–O contacts. When both sets are considered a single net results, but discarding the slightly longer set a 2-fold interpenetrated diamondoid array of Class IIa, with alternating tetrahedral A and B nodes, can be obtained. Sometime it could be also useful to select ad-hoc interactions to describe complex structures as interpenetrated (see tennantite, helvite and others examples in Ref. [\[8\]](#page-18-0))

Before searching for interpenetration in inorganic compounds, therefore, we should substantiate the representation levels to be considered. Since the number of compounds to be investigated was extremely large, we should choose a set of formal criteria for automatic determination of adjacency matrix at each level. Such criteria can effectively be found by using the parameters of atomic VDP [\[15\].](#page-18-0) The total number of direct neighbors for an atom is determined as the number of 'major' [\[16\]](#page-18-0) VDP faces; then chemical bonds are selected by considering solid angles  $(\Omega)$  of the faces. Some minimum value of solid angle (in percentage of  $4\pi$ steradian) corresponds to the weakest bonds taken into account. Many recent investigations showed this approach to be valid and useful [\[15\].](#page-18-0)

The following representation levels were considered in this study:

1. The valence level, where all valence bonds are taken into account, both strong and also relatively weak. For instance, both coordination spheres are considered for alkali metals. This level corresponds to a special method of intersecting spheres [\[17\]](#page-18-0) that uses the concept of radius of spherical domain  $(R_{sd})$ , in addition to the atomic crystallochemical radius, to recognize chemical bonds.  $R_{sd}$  is equal to the radius of a sphere of VDP volume and can be considered as an effective atomic radius in a given crystal field. Each atom is represented by two spheres: internal (with Slater radius) and external (with  $R_{sd}$ ). A valence interaction between two atoms is assumed if (i) they have a common 'major' VDP face, (ii) there are at least two intersections between their internal or external spheres, and (iii) the solid angle of the face is greater than some value, assumed equal to 5% for inorganic compounds [\[18\]](#page-18-0). When there is a single intersection (between external spheres) we will refer to the bond as *specific* (secondary); if no intersections are found the atoms could be involved only into van der Waals interactions.

2. The strong valence level, where weak interatomic contacts are ignored. The scheme of the method of intersecting spheres was also used to calculate the adjacency matrix, but only the VDP faces with large  $\Omega$ were considered. Two different calculations were performed at this level: with  $\Omega > 10\%$  and  $\Omega > 12\%$ . Some crystal structures (e.g., pyrochlore structure), being a single net at the valence level, become interpenetrated at this level.

3. The *classic* level, that mainly rests upon the traditional crystallochemical approach to determination of interatomic bonds. The (ii) and (iii) criteria of the method of intersecting spheres are replaced by the requirement for an interatomic distance to be shorter than the sum of Slater radii of contacting atoms increased by  $0.3$  A.

4. The metal-reduced level, that is derived from the strong valence level by removing all alkali and alkalineearth (Ca, Sr, Ba) metals.

5. The non-metal-reduced level, that is equivalent to the strong valence level without halogen atoms.

6. The  $H$  bond level, where hydrogen bonds are considered together with valence bonds. TOPOS selects the H bonds  $A-H \cdots B$  among the secondary interactions determined by the method of intersecting spheres, applying the following default geometrical *criteria*: (i) the H bond distance  $r(H \cdots B)$  is  $\leq 2.5$  A; (ii) the distance between the atoms separated by an H bond bridge  $r(A \cdots B)$  is  $\leq 3.8$  A; (iii) the A-H  $\cdots$  B angle is  $120^{\circ}$  or greater (A and B atoms are defined by the user and, in this work, they were chosen as O, N, S, and halogens). For B equal to Cl, Br, or I the maximum  $r(H \cdots B)$  and  $r(A \cdots B)$  values were increased by 0.2, 0.3, or 0.4 Å, respectively. The H bonds  $A-H \leftrightarrow H-B$ with disordered hydrogen atoms were also recognized.

Each structure graph at each representation level was analyzed using the TOPOS program package, specially improved to find and classify 3D interpenetration [\[1\].](#page-17-0) The algorithm of the analysis includes the following steps:

1. Correcting atomic coordinates in disordered structures. If disordered atoms (except hydrogens) were located close to each other  $(<1$  Å by distance) they were replaced by a pseudo-atom at the centroid of the disordered group.

2. Calculating adjacency matrix at a given representation level.

3. Selecting all metal atoms (if any) as complexing centers, and determining composition and topology of all ligands. At this step 3D interpenetration in the nonmetal part of the crystal structure was recognized, as, for instance, in many borates and tellurates.

4. Simplifying the adjacency matrix by contracting all finite ligands to the complexing centers and keeping connectivity of the structure.

5. Analyzing topology of the simplified graph, detecting and classifying 3D interpenetration in the whole structure.

Owing to such versatile consideration of each compound all known cases of 3D interpenetration in inorganic substances were recognized and a lot of new examples were found. However, it is practically impossible to enumerate all representation levels for all inorganic compounds. We have only considered from a chemical point of view the most valuable variants,

keeping in mind that an entanglement in a real crystal structure should first have clear physical meaning. At the same time, if one would consider some specific problems, e.g., crystal formation, other representation levels could be required. In this case an unexpected entanglement could be discovered, as in the above mentioned species  $Na<sub>3</sub>B<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>$ .

## 3. Analysis of the results

Our systematic search for interpenetration of 3D inorganic networks in ICSD (2005/1) has produced a comprehensive list, including 144 Collection Codes of identical interpenetrating 3D structures. Also in this case, as for the analysis of CSD, the list of interpenetrating networks by Batten [\[9\]](#page-18-0) was checked for assessing the ability of the TOPOS program in discovering interpenetration. We should mention here that in ICSD there are numerous re-determinations of the same structure (on the average each has been determined 1.4  $times...$ ) and in the references we will list all of them from the most recent publication.

The examples are listed in different tables, depending on the connectivity of the nodes and on the topological types classified, when available, with the three letter designation proposed by O'Keeffe [\[6c, 6d, 6e, 11\].](#page-17-0) The distribution of the 30 different topologies (see Fig. 1) confirms that the most common interpenetrating nets are the diamondoid nets (44.8%, including augmented diamond and supertetrahedral nets), the a-polonium nets (18.8%, including augmented and decorated  $\alpha$ -Po) followed by the  $SrSi<sub>2</sub>$  nets (6.3%). The distribution observed here parallels the one found for MOF in CSD: 41.9% dia; 17.3% pcu and 7.6% srs [\[1\].](#page-17-0) Indeed, the large majority of interpenetrating nets show 'common' topological types [\[1,2a\]](#page-17-0). Some less common and new topologies, however, were also found, that will be described later in detail [\[11\]](#page-18-0).



Fig. 1. Distribution of the topologies within the 144 structures.

#### 3.1. General comments and comparisons

As already mentioned, the network description of inorganic species is complicated by the choice of the nodes, that often results even more arbitrary than for MOFs. What makes essentially different, moreover, the inorganic networks from the metal-organic ones is the length of the spacers connecting the nodes in the two cases. For inorganic species the links are mainly represented by direct interatomic covalent bonds or by one-atom or few-atom bridges. Thus the net edges are generally much shorter than in MOFs, that are built up with the use of long molecular spacers. This can have some relevant consequences on interpenetration. A survey of the results of our analysis, indeed, clearly shows some peculiar features: (i) the degree of interpenetration  $Z$  in almost limited to  $2 \left(91\%, \text{ only}\right)$ two cases 6-fold, one 4-fold and ten 3-fold) and (ii) consequently the Classes are almost completely restricted to Ia  $(54\%)$  and IIa  $(44\%)$ .

Equivalent interpenetrating networks are listed in [Tables 4–9](#page-5-0). In many cases different structural determinations of the same species were performed in successive times, but we have reported in the tables a single Collection code, generally corresponding to the most recent crystallographic characterization. Non-identical nets and hydrogen-bonded nets will be considered later ([Tables 10 and 11\)](#page-11-0).

#### 3.2. Three-connected interpenetrating nets

The species with this connectivity (17 cases) are reported in [Table 4](#page-5-0) [\[19\]](#page-18-0). The dominant topological type is that of  $SrSi<sub>2</sub>$  (srs) with 9 examples, followed by Th $Si<sub>2</sub>$  (ths) with 4 examples. All nets but three have  $Z = 2$ .

Some cases are worth of a more detailed description. The structure of  $Ta(PS_4)S_2$  (23284) illustrates the difficulty or arbitrariness of selection of the nodes. The Ta atoms are 3-connected and selecting them as nodes we obtain the srs topology. Alternatively, since Ta–Ta dinuclear moieties are present, choosing these units as nodes leads to diamondoid (dia) nets (see [Fig. 2](#page-13-0)).

The srs family includes a group of four isomorphous compounds of formula  $M\text{Te}_3\text{O}_8$  ( $M = \text{Ti}, \text{Zr}, \text{Hf}, \text{Sn}$ ) in which the  $M$  metal cations are not comprised in the networks and the nodes are 3-connected O atoms. Also in the related case  $K(GaTe<sub>6</sub>O<sub>14</sub>)$  (280793) the K and Ga metal cations are not included in the nets, but these nets show a remarkable difference: we can recognize here two types of alternating nodes, 3-connected O and 3 connected  $Te_3O_6$  triangles (see [Fig. 3\)](#page-13-0). We could define this net a hemi-decorated srs. Otherwise, considering the individual Te atoms as nodes, we obtain a new binodal 3-connected network of a topology having Schläfli symbol  $(15^3)(3.15^2)_3$ .

<span id="page-5-0"></span>Table 4 Interpenetrating triconnected networks [\[19\]](#page-18-0)

	Collection code Compound (Sp. Gr.)	Nodes <sup>a</sup>	Class Z			PICVR Non-Transl Transl	
$SrSi2 uniform (103)-a srs$							
26521	$\alpha$ -Ag <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (R32)	B, O 3-coor/Ag spacers	Ia	2	$\overline{2}$		$[001]$ (3.38 Å)
68386	$[(CO)_4Fe][Hg(SCN)]_2 (I4_1/a)$	Hg 3-conn/ $Fe(CO)4$ spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		Ī	
23284	$Ta(PS_4)S_2$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> /acd)	Ta oct/PS <sub>4</sub> , $S_2$ spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$\overline{1}$	
9078	HfTe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> ( <i>Ia</i> $\bar{3}$ )	O 3-conn/Te spacers [Hf]	<b>IIa</b>	2		$\overline{1}$	
9077	$SnTe3O8$ ( <i>Ia</i> $\bar{3}$ )	O 3-conn/Te spacers $[Sn]$	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$\overline{1}$	
98902 <sup>b</sup>	TiTe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> ( <i>Ia</i> $\bar{3}$ ) Winstanleyite	O 3-conn/Te spacers [Ti]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$\overline{1}$	
$409713^b$	$ZrTe_3O_8 (Ia\bar{3})$	O 3-conn/Te spacers $[Zr]$	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$\overline{\textbf{1}}$	
280793	$K(GaTe6O14)$ (Pa 3)	O, Te <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> 3-conn [K,Ga]	<b>IIa</b>	2		$\overline{1}$	
71900 <sup>b</sup>	$(Hg2)$ <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> O(OH) ( <i>Ia</i> $\overline{3}$ <i>d</i> ) Eglestonite	$O/Hg2$ spacers [Cl]	IIb	$4(2*2)$ 1		$\overline{1}$ 2-axis	
Th $Si2$ uniform (10 <sup>3</sup> )-b ths							
72596	$CrP_3S_{9.238}$ ( <i>Fddd</i> )	Cr 6-coor/ $P_2S_6$ spacers	Ia	3	3		$[01/21/2]$ (12.21 Å)
280333	$Ag2(HgO2)$ ( $P43212$ )	O 3-conn/Hg, Ag spacers	Ia	$\mathfrak{Z}$	$\overline{\mathbf{3}}$		$[001]$ $(8.42 \text{ Å})$
$34666^{\rm b}$	$LiNa2KFe2Ti2(Si4O12)2 (C2/c) Neptunite SiO4 3-conn, [Li,Na,K,Fe,Ti]$		Ha	$\overline{c}$		Ī	
281130	Cs[AgZn(SCN) <sub>4</sub> ] (C2/c)	Ag 3-conn, $Zn$ tet $[Cs]$	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$\overline{1}$	
$(4.12^2)$ nbo-a							
66547 <sup>b</sup>	Ag(CNO) $(R\bar{3})$	Ag, C 3-conn	Ia	2	$\overline{c}$		$[001]$ (5.73 Å)
	Binodal uniform $(8^3)$ etc, Wells $(8^3)$ -c						
81997	$NaTi2(PS4)3$ ( <i>P6cc</i> )	Ti oct/ $PS_4$ spacers, [Na]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$2-axis$	
	<i>Binodal uniform</i> (10 <sup>3</sup> ) $VS = [10_3.10_3.10_3][10.10_3.10_3]$						
32721	$\beta$ -Ag <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> (R <sup>3</sup> c)	B, O 3-conn/Ag spacers	<b>IIa</b>	2	1	$\overline{\text{1}}$	
	Pentanodal $(6.8.12)_4(6^2.10)$ $VS = [6.6.12_5][6.8.12_8](c_{10} = 495)$ $[6.8.12_6][6.8.12_8](c_{10} = 494)[6.8.12_7]$						
202397	$Ta_2(P_2S_{11}) (P_21/c)$	Ta oct/PS <sub>4</sub> , $S_2$ spacers	Ia	2	$\overline{2}$		$[100]$ (6.88 Å)

<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

Particularly interesting is the structure of the mineral Eglestonite,  $(Hg_2)_3Cl_3O(OH)$  (71900), that was so far described by Wells [\[4\]](#page-17-0) as a 4-fold interpenetrated srs net ignoring the chlorine anions. The nodes are 3 connected O atoms joined by Hg–Hg links (see [Fig. 4\)](#page-13-0). The structure is a solid racemate consisting of two pairs of enantiomeric nets. The two nets of the same handedness (i.e., the Blue and Yellow pair or the Green and Red one) are related between themselves a 2-fold axis while the nets of opposite chirality are related by an inversion center (the two symmetry operations are PISEs in our classification). Thus this species represents the unique example of the Class IIb, previously postulated by us [\[1\].](#page-17-0) However, a different classification is also possible considering that the O nodes of two enantiomeric pairs (Blue + Green or Yellow + Red) are bridged by  $[0 \cdots H \cdots 0]$ hydrogen bonds. A pair of nets, therefore, gives rise to a single 4-connected network, showing the topology of  $\gamma$ -silicon ([Fig. 4](#page-13-0), bottom right). The overall array results a 2-fold interpenetrated  $\gamma$ -Si (gsi) net belonging to Class IIa. The relation between two enatiomeric srs nets and gsi was firstly observed by O'Keeffe and Hyde in [\[6a\].](#page-17-0)

Examples with other topologies are also of great interest. For instance, Ag(CNO) (66547) with 3-con-

nected Ag and C nodes shows the augmented Nb oxide (nbo-a, see [Fig. 5,](#page-13-0) left) topology, with  $Ag<sub>2</sub>(CNO)<sub>2</sub>$  rings at the nodes of the NbO network (nbo). An augmented net is one in which the vertices of the original net are replaced by a polygon or polyhedron corresponding to the original coordination figure [\[6b,c,d, 11\]](#page-17-0). In Na- $Ti<sub>2</sub>(PS<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>$  (81997), neglecting the Na cations, two interpenetrating binodal nets are present, showing the topology described by Wells as  $(8^3)$ -c [\[4\]](#page-17-0) (etc), shown in [Fig. 5,](#page-13-0) right.

Finally, we must mention here the case of the two forms of silver(I) orthoborate  $\text{Ag}_3\text{BO}_3$  (both with 3-connected B and O nodes), one of which (26521) is 2-fold srs of Class Ia while the second (32721) is a novel binodal  $10^3$  net of Class IIa (see [Fig. 6\)](#page-13-0) [\[20\].](#page-18-0) It is worth noting that considering as nodes the whole 6-connected  $BO<sub>3</sub>$  units we obtain two interpenetrating  $\alpha$ -Po (pcu) nets in both species.

#### 3.3. Four-connected interpenetrating nets

Four-connected networks are reported in [Tables 5–7.](#page-6-0) The family of interpenetrating diamondoid nets (dia, 42) Collection codes) is listed in [Table 5](#page-6-0) [\[21\]](#page-18-0). Only Class Ia (20 cases) and IIa (22 cases) are observed, with  $Z = 2$  in 40 examples.

<span id="page-6-0"></span>Table 5 Interpenetrating diamondoid (dia) networks [\[21\]](#page-18-0)

Collection code	Compound (Sp. Gr.)	Nodes <sup>a</sup>	Class	Z	<b>PICVR</b>	Non-Transl	Transl
$63281^{\rm b}$	Cu <sub>2</sub> O ( $Pn\bar{3}m$ ) Cuprite	O tet, prototype	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (4.27 Å)
77651	$Pd_2O$ $(Ph\bar{3}m)$	O tet, $Cu2O$ type	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (4.28 Å)
281041 <sup>b</sup>	Ag <sub>2</sub> O $(Ph\bar{3}m)$	O tet, Cu <sub>2</sub> O type	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(4.73 \text{ Å})$
28838	$Pd_2O(Pn\bar{3}m)$	O tet, $Cu2O$ type	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[100]$ (5.38 Å)
77714	$Zr_2O$ ( <i>Pn</i> $\bar{3}m$ )	O tet, Cu <sub>2</sub> O type	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (5.09 Å)
78718	Au <sub>2</sub> S $(Ph\bar{3}m)$	S tet, Cu <sub>2</sub> O type	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(5.02 \text{ Å})$
87215 <sup>b</sup>	$Ag_{2-x}Au_xS$ ( <i>Pn</i> $\bar{3}m$ )	S tet, Cu <sub>2</sub> O type	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (4.95 Å)
93725	$Be(CN)2$ $(Ph\bar{3}m)$	Be tet	Ia	$\boldsymbol{2}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(5.34 \text{ Å})$
66938 <sup>b</sup>	$Cd(CN)_2 (P\bar{4}3m)$	Cd tet	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (6.30 Å)
93726	$Mg(CN)$ , $(Ph\bar{3}m)$	Mg tet	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(6.12 \text{ Å})$
412317 <sup>b</sup>	$\text{Zn}(\text{CN})_2$ (Pn $\bar{3}m$ )	Zn tet	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (5.91 Å)
93543	$SiC_2N_4$ ( <i>Pn</i> $\bar{3}$ <i>m</i> )	Si tet	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ (6.19 Å)
77654	$Pt(IV)O2 (Pn\bar{3}m)$	Pt tet	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[100]$ $(3.95 A)$
78986	$(NH_4)_3Cu_4H_2Br_{13} (Pn\bar{3})$	$Br(CuBr3)4/Ho spacers$	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[100]$ $(11.02 \text{ Å})$
402503	$Rb_3Cu_4Tm_2Br_{13} (Pn\bar{3})$	$Br(CuBr3)4/Tm spacers [Rb]$	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(11.02 \text{ Å})$
24541	$(NH_4)_{5}$ Ce[Ni(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> ( <i>Pn</i> 3)	Ce 12-coor/Ni spacers	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(10.58 \text{ Å})$
411179	$Ag(B(CN)4)$ $(P\bar{4}3m)$	B tet, Ag tet	Ia	$\overline{\mathbf{c}}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(5.73 \text{ Å})$
30854	$LiCo(CO)4$ ( $P\bar{4}3m$ )	Co tet, Li tet	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\overline{c}$		$[100]$ $(5.54 \text{ Å})$
56730	$Ca(AICl_4)_2 (I4_1 / acd)$	Ca 8-coor/AlCl <sub>4</sub> spacers	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	Ī	
56729	Yb(AlCl <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ( $I4_1$ /acd)	Yb 8-coor/AlCl <sub>4</sub> spacers	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\textbf{l}}$	
56743 <sup>b</sup>	$Sr(AICl4)2$ ( <i>Pbca</i> )	$Sr 8$ -coor/AlCl <sub>4</sub> spacers	Ha	$\overline{c}$	1	$\overline{\text{1}}$	
77083 <sup>b</sup>	$CsHSO4$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> /amd)	Cs tet, S tet	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{1}$	
62889b	$CsDSO4 (I41/and)$	Cs tet, S tet	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{1}}$	
51314	LiAlB <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (C2/c)	$AlB2O3/O$ spacers [Li]	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	
14361	CdB <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> (Pbca)	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Cd]	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	Ī	
96560	CoB <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> (Pbca)	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Co]	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	
281287	$HgB4O7$ (Pbca)	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Hg]	<b>IIa</b>	$\mathbf{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{1}}$	
$9086^{b}$	$ZnB4O7$ ( <i>Pbca</i> )	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Zn]	Ha	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{1}$	
6170	$MnB4O7$ (Pbca)	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Mn]	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	
34397	$MgB4O7$ (Pbca)	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Mg]	<b>IIa</b>	$\mathbf{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{1}$	
$65930^{b}$	$Li2B4O7$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> <i>cd</i> ) Diomignite	$B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Li]	IIa	$\boldsymbol{2}$	$\,1$	c-glide	
93836	$CsB5O8$ ( <i>Pbca</i> )	$B_5O_6/O$ spacers [Cs]	Ha	$\overline{c}$	1	Ī	
$2712^{b}$	$KB5O8$ ( <i>Pbca</i> )	$B_5O_6/O$ spacers [K]	IIa	$\mathbf{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{1}}$	
93838 <sup>b</sup>	$RbB5O8$ ( <i>Pbca</i> )	$B_5O_6/O$ spacers [Rb]	IIa	$\mathbf{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{1}$	
50927	$TIB5O8$ ( <i>Pbca</i> )	$B_5O_6/O$ spacers [Tl]	IIa	2	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{1}}$	
2045	$Na2B6O10$ (P2 <sub>1</sub> /c)	$B_5O_6$ , $B_4O_5/O$ spacers [Na]	Ha	$\mathbf{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	
98571 <sup>b</sup>	$Ag_2B_8O_{13} (P2_1/c)$	$B_5O_6$ , $B_3O_3/O$ spacers [Ag]	IIa	$\boldsymbol{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	
95870 <sup>b</sup>	$Na2B8O13$ (P2 <sub>1</sub> /a)	$B_5O_6$ , $B_3O_3/O$ spacers [Na]	IIa	$\overline{\mathbf{c}}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{\text{I}}$	
26203	$BaB_8O_{13} (P4_122)$	$B_5O_6$ , $B_3O_3/O$ spacers [Ba]	IIa	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$2-axis$	
279578	$Li_2(AlB_5O_{10}) (P2_1/c)$	$B_5O_6$ , Al $O_4$ [Li]	IIa	$\mathbf{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	ī	
67526	Ag <sub>3</sub> CuS <sub>2</sub> ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> / <i>amd</i> ) Jalpaite	$Ag_4Cu_2S_4/Ag$ spacers	Iac	3	3		$[1/2 1/2 1/2](8.49 \text{ Å})$
$31360^{\rm b}$	$CsCo(CO)4(I\bar{4})$	Cs tet, Co tet	Ia	3	3		$[001] (5.34 \text{ Å})$

<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

<sup>c</sup>A case of translational interpenetration that does not show the "normal mode".

As previously stated [\[1\],](#page-17-0) our categorization can be useful for the analysis of the so-called 'normal mode of interpenetration' in diamondoid nets [\[3d\]](#page-17-0), whose typical aspect is that the nodes of all the Z independent nets are equally spaced along one of the 'ideal' 2-fold axes of the adamantanoid cage and each net is translated along this direction by  $1/Z$  the cage height. This mode must be limited to Class Ia, but not all the interpenetrated diamondoid nets of this Class are 'normal'. A case of 'non-normal' interpenetration is that of the 3-fold dia  $Ag_3CuS_2$  (67526), illustrated in [Fig. 7,](#page-14-0) whose nodes are  $Ag_4Cu_2S_4$  clusters.

A numerous group of 2-fold interpenetrated dia networks is that of anhydrous borates (and related compounds). In all these species the cations do not participate to the nets and the nodes consist of O-bridged borate units, like  $B_3O_3$ ,  $B_4O_5$  and  $B_5O_6$ (see [Fig. 8\)](#page-14-0), either of a single type or (in four cases) of two different types. Nodes like these are also present in interpenetrating networks showing other topologies (see later).

Interpenetrating augmented and supertetrahedral diamondoid networks are reported in [Table 6](#page-7-0) [\[22\]](#page-19-0), all having  $Z = 2$  and belonging to Class IIa, but one. The

<span id="page-7-0"></span>Table 6 Interpenetrating augmented and supertetrahedral diamond (dia) networks [\[22\]](#page-19-0)

	Collection code Compound (Sp. Gr.)	Nodes <sup>a</sup>	Class	Ζ	<b>PICVR</b>	Transl/Non- Transl
Augmented diamond $dia-a(T2)$						
281482	$[\text{Ir}_4(CO)_8F_2](Sb_2F_{11})$ , $(P\bar{4}n2)$	Ir cluster/ $Sb_2F_{11}$ spacers	Ia	2	2	$[001]$ $(9.53A)$
78774 <sup>b</sup>	BeCl <sub>2</sub> ( $I4_1$ /acd)	$[Be_4Cl_6]$ 4-conn/Cl spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$	$\mathbf{1}$	
92587	BeI <sub>2</sub> ( $I4_1$ /acd)	$[Be_4l_6]$ 4-conn/l spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
30803	$\text{ZnBr}_2$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> /acd)	$[Zn_4Br_6]$ 4-conn/Br spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
2404	ZnI <sub>2</sub> ( $I4_1$ /acd)	$[Zn_4I_6]$ 4-conn/I spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$	1	
281134	HgI <sub>2</sub> ( $I4_1$ /acd)	$[Hg_4I_6]$ 4-conn/I spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
85527	GeS <sub>2</sub> $(I4_1/acd)$	$[Ge_4S_6]$ 4-conn/S spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
34607	$Be(NH_2)$ , $(I4_1/acd)$	$[Be_4(NH_2)_6]$ 4-conn/NH <sub>2</sub> spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$	1	
16222	$Mg(NH_2)$ <sub>2</sub> ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> / <i>acd</i> )	$[Mg_4(NH_2)_6]$ 4-conn/NH <sub>2</sub> spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
89582	$Mn(NH_2)$ <sub>2</sub> ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> / <i>acd</i> )	$[Mn_4(NH_2)_6]$ 4-conn/NH <sub>2</sub> spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$	1	Ī
89581	$Zn(NH_2)$ <sub>2</sub> ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> / <i>acd</i> )	$[Zn_4(NH_2)_6]$ 4-conn/NH <sub>2</sub> spacers	- IIa	2		
86016	Ca <sub>3</sub> Ga <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> ( $I4_1$ /acd)	[ $Ga_4N_6$ ] 4-conn/N spacers [Ca]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
73307	$Na2SnAs2$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> / <i>acd</i> )	$[Sn4As6]$ 4-conn/As spacers [Na]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		
Supertetrahedral diamond						
73150	$Li_5(B_7S_{13})$ (C2/c)	T <sub>2</sub> ( $B_4S_6$ ), T <sub>3</sub> ( $B_{10}S_{16}$ ) 1:1/S spacers [Li]	<b>IIa</b>	2		Ī
412579	$Na5.88(B10Se18)$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> / <i>acd</i> )	T3 $(B_{10}S_{16})/S$ spacers [Na]	<b>IIa</b>	2	1	ī
78993	$Na_6(B_{10}S_{18})$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> /acd)	T3 $(B_{10}S_{16})/S$ spacers [Na]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$		
33270	$Ag_6(B_{10}S_{18})$ (C2/c)	T3 $(B_{10}S_{16})/S$ spacers [Ag]	<b>IIa</b>	2		
69352	$Li_{9.8}(B_{10}S_{18})S_{1.9} (C2/c)$	T3 $(B_{10}S_{16})/S$ spacers [Li]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$	1	Ī
93107	$(Cd_4In_{16}S_{33})(H_2O)_{20}[(N_2C_4H_8)((NH_2)C_3H_6)_{2}]_{2,5}$ (I4 <sub>1</sub> /acd)	T4 $(Cd_4In_{16}S_{31})/S$ spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$	1	$\overline{1}$
93103	$(Zn_4In_{16}S_{33})[(N_2C_4H_8)((NH_2)C_3H_6)_2]$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> /acd)	T4 $(Zn_4In_{16}S_{31})/S$ spacers	<b>IIa</b>	2	1	Ī
93104	$(Zn_4In_{16}S_{33})[(N_2C_4H_9)((NH_2)C_2H_4)]$ $(I4_1/acd)$	T4 $(Zn_4In_{16}S_{31})/S$ spacers	<b>IIa</b>	2	1	$\overline{1}$
281747	$(In_{2,39}Ge_{1,61}S_8)(H_2O)_{0,25}$ ( <i>I</i> 4 <sub>1</sub> /acd)	Pseudo T4 $(In_8Ge_8S_{30})/S$ spacers IIa		$\overline{2}$		$\overline{1}$

<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

augmented diamondoid nets (dia-a, 13 cases) show diamond (dia) nodes that are decorated by tetrahedra (T2). The case of the prototypical  $\text{BeCl}_2$  (78774), that is comprised of  $Be_4Cl_6$  adamantane cages as nodes, is illustrated in [Fig. 9.](#page-14-0)

Nine examples of interpenetrating supertetrahedral networks are also known, showing the diamond network decorated by tetrahedra of higher order (T3 and T4). A case (73150) with mixed T2/T3 nodes is also known (see [Fig. 10,](#page-14-0) top).

The non-diamondoid 4-connected nets are reported in [Table 7](#page-8-0) [\[23\]](#page-20-0). This long list comprises different uninodal and polynodal topologies. Seven uninodal types were found, four more common  $[SrAl<sub>2</sub> (sra),$  quartz  $(qtz)$ , NbO (nbo) and  $CdSO_4$  (cds)] and three less common [Gismondine (gis) and lcv (or srs-e), illustrated in [Fig. 11,](#page-14-0) and lvt, shown in [Fig. 12](#page-14-0), left].

Two out of the three observed cases with the quartz (qtz) topology exhibit the highest  $Z$  value (6) observed in the ICSD. These two isomorphous species, namely  $Co(Au(CN)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  (41197) and  $Zn(Au(CN)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  (83675), contain six homochiral quartz nets and belong to Class IIIa; they can be described in an alternative way including in the list of bonds also the short aurophilic Au–Au contacts, that join three nets into a single one, as 2-fold (3,4)-connected net (Class IIa related by 2-axis) with Schläfli symbol  $(9^2.10)_2(9^4.10^2)$ .

The more numerous groups have polynodal network topologies. These include a net derived from pcu decorated with hexagons (pcu-h-e) (see [Fig. 12](#page-14-0), right); the binodal Cooperite (pts) with 5 cases and, more surprisingly, the trinodal 4-connected net of Sulvanite  $(Cu_3VS_4)$  (jsa) with 7 cases. This trinodal network can be described as a **pcu** net decorated by  $A_3B X_4$  cages (see [Fig. 13](#page-15-0)).

## 3.4. Higher connectivities

Networks with connectivities higher than four are dominated by one topological type, i.e., the 6-connected a-polonium topology (see [Table 8\)](#page-9-0) [\[24\].](#page-20-0) The majority of the  $\alpha$ -Po (pcu) nets are 2-fold interpenetrated (12 cases), with few exceptional cases showing  $Z = 3$  (5 cases).

Starting from the pcu topology different types of decoration of the nodes have been observed (one example has been described above, i.e., Sulvanite, see

<span id="page-8-0"></span>



<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

[Fig. 13](#page-15-0)). An uncommon type of decoration is present in  $Li_9B_{19}S_{33}$  (73151): the nodes are  $B_{19}S_{30}$  clusters consisting of two fused T3 supertetrahedra sharing a corner (see [Fig. 10](#page-14-0), bottom).

By decorating pcu nets with octahedra we obtain augmented  $\alpha$ -Po nets (pcu-a or cab from the prototypical  $CaB<sub>6</sub>$ ). Three examples of 2-fold interpenetrated cab networks are listed in [Table 8](#page-9-0), and a schematic view of the interpenetration is shown in [Fig. 14.](#page-15-0) Note that considering as nodes, instead of the whole octahedra, the individual atoms at the octahedral corners we obtain a 5-connected network with Schläfli symbol  $(3^4.4^2.8^4)$ . When the decoration consists of centered octahedra (see [Fig. 14](#page-15-0), right) we obtain a decorated pcu net that can be described as cab ''centered''. Seven cases of 2-fold

interpenetrating nets with this topology, belonging to Class Ia, are known.

[Table 8](#page-9-0) contains also a 6-connected network with topology different from pcu, observed for the 3-fold interpenetrated  $Eu(Ag(CN)_2)_3(H_2O)_3$  (81234), of the type WC (acs), that is illustrated in [Fig. 15](#page-15-0), top left. [\[25\]](#page-21-0)

## 3.5. Nodes of different connectivity

A group of 11 interpenetrated nets containing nodes of different connectivities  $(3,4)$ ,  $(3,6)$ , and  $(4,12)$ ] is listed in [Table 9](#page-10-0) [\[26\]](#page-21-0). Among these species it is worth mentioning the 2-fold interpenetrating (3,4)-connected  $(8<sup>3</sup>)<sub>2</sub>(8<sup>6</sup>)$  net (tfa) in Cs(B<sub>9</sub>O<sub>14</sub>) (97512) containing 3connected and 4-connected  $B_3O_3$  nodes (see [Fig. 15,](#page-15-0) top

<span id="page-9-0"></span>Table 8 Interpenetrating  $\alpha$ -Polonium (pcu) and related networks [\[24\]](#page-20-0)

Collection code	Compound (Sp. Gr.)	Nodes <sup>a</sup>	Class	Z	<b>PICVR</b>	Non-Transl	Transl
$\alpha$ -Po, primitive cubic, pcu							
281147	$[Co(H2O)4)3(W6S8(CN)6)(H2O)23.13(C2/c)$	$W_6S_8$ 6-conn/Co spacers	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\overline{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 0](13.11 \text{ Å})$
281146	$Fe(H2O)4$ <sub>3</sub> (W <sub>6</sub> S <sub>8</sub> (CN) <sub>6</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>24.62</sub> (C2/c)	$W_6S_8$ 6-conn/Fe spacers	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 0]$ (13.19 Å)
281145	$[{\rm Mn}({\rm H}_2{\rm O})_4)_3({\rm W}_6{\rm S}_8({\rm CN})_6)({\rm H}_2{\rm O})_{23.4}$ (C2/c)	$W_6S_8$ 6-conn/Co spacers	Ia	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$		$[1/21/20]$ (13.25 Å)
44692	$La_2O_3$ ( <i>Im</i> $\bar{3}$ <i>m</i> )	La oct	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/21/21/2]$ (3.91 Å)
100216	$Nd_2O_3$ (Im $\bar{3}m$ )	Nd oct	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\mathfrak{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (3.82 Å)
410239	$[Co(H2O)4]3[V18O42 (VxS1-xO4)](H2O)24 (Im3m)$	$V_{18}O_{42}$ 6-conn/Co spacers	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\overline{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (13.38 Å)
410238	$[Fe(H2O)4]3[V18O42 (VxS1-xO4)](H2O)24 (Im3m)$	$V_{18}O_{42}$ 6-conn/Fe spacers	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\mathfrak{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (13.40 Å)
411144	$(N_2H_5)_2(Mg_3(H_2O)_{12}V_{18}O_{42}(V_xS_{1-x}O_4)) \cdot (H_2O)_{24}$ (Im $\bar{3}m$ )	$V_{18}O_{42}$ 6-conn/Mg spacers	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\overline{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (13.42 Å)
411145	$Li_6(Mn_3(H_2O)_{12}V_{18}O_{42}(V_xS_{1-x}O_4)) \cdot (H_2O)_{24}$ (Im $\bar{3}m$ )	$V_{18}O_{42}$ 6-conn/Mn spacers	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\mathfrak{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (13.46 Å)
16959 <sup>b</sup>	$Co[Ag(CN)2]$ <sub>3</sub> ( $P\bar{3}1m$ )	Co oct/Ag(CN) <sub>2</sub> spacers	Ia	$\overline{3}$	3		$[010]$ $(7.03 \text{ Å})$
65699	$K_2Na[Ag(CN)_2]$ ; (P $\bar{3}1m$ )	Na oct/Ag(CN) <sub>2</sub> spacers, [K]	Ia	$\overline{\mathbf{3}}$	$\overline{3}$		$[010]$ $(7.05 \text{ Å})$
281280	KMn[Ag(CN) <sub>3</sub> (P312)	Mn oct/Ag(CN) <sub>2</sub> spacers, [K]	Ia	3	$\overline{3}$		$[010]$ $(6.92 \text{ Å})$
75503	$RbCd[Ag(CN)2]3(P312)$	Cd oct/Ag(CN) <sub>2</sub> spacers, [Rb]	Ia	3	$\overline{3}$		$[010]$ $(6.92 \text{ Å})$
201056	$KCo[Au(CN)2]_{3}(P312)$	Co oct/Au(CN), spacers, $[K]$	Ia	$\overline{3}$	$\overline{3}$		$[010]$ $(6.83 \text{ Å})$
87982	$H_6Mn_3[V_{19}O_{46}(H_2O)_{12}](H_2O)_{30}$ (Pn 3)	$V_{19}O_{46}(H_2O)_{12}/Mn$ spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\sqrt{2}$			
73151	Li <sub>9</sub> B <sub>19</sub> S <sub>33</sub> (C2/c)	$B_{19}S_{30}$ , fused T3 [Li]	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$			
$100139^{\rm b}$	Fe(OH)Te <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (I4 <sub>1</sub> /acd) Mackayite	$Fe2Te4O4/OH$ , O spacers	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{c}$			
	Augmented $\alpha$ -Po, 5-conn (3 <sup>4</sup> .4 <sup>2</sup> .8 <sup>4</sup> ), pcu-a cab (CaB <sub>6</sub> prototype)						
25769	$Nb_6F_{15}$ (Im $\bar{3}$ m)	$Nb6F12$ , Nb 5-conn	Ia	$\overline{c}$	2		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (7.09 Å)
69053 <sup>b</sup>	$Th_6H_7Br_{15} (Im\bar{3}m)$	$Th6Br12$ , Th 5-conn	Ia	$\overline{c}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (9.93 Å)
$69054^{\rm b}$	$Th_6D_7Br_{15} (Im\bar{3}m)$	$Th6Br12$ , Th 5-conn	Ia	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (9.85 Å)
	Decorated $\alpha$ -Po, 6-conn (3 <sup>12</sup> .4 <sup>3</sup> )(3 <sup>8</sup> .4 <sup>2</sup> .8 <sup>4</sup> .9) <sub>6</sub> , cab "centered"						
71148	$Zr_6CoCl_{15}$ (Im $\bar{3}m$ )	Co centered $Zr_6Cl_{12}$ , Zr 6-conn	Ia	$\overline{\mathbf{c}}$	2		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (8.82 Å)
71149	$Zr_6NiCl_{15} (Im\bar{3}m)$	Ni centered $Zr_6Cl_{12}$ , Zr 6-conn	Ia		$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (8.83 Å)
33926	$\text{CoTh}_6\text{Br}_{15} (Im\,3\,m)$	Co centered $Th_6Br_{12}$ , Th 6-conn	Ia		$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (9.97 Å)
33925	FeTh <sub>6</sub> Br <sub>15</sub> (Im $\bar{3}$ m)	Fe centered $Th_6Br_{12}$ , Th 6-conn	Ia	$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{array}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (9.95 Å)
33927	NaFeTh <sub>6</sub> Br <sub>15</sub> (Im $\overline{3}$ m)	Fe centered $Th_6Br_{12}$ , Th 6-conn [Na]	Ia		$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (10.05 Å)
71146	$Li2Zr6MnCl15$ (Im $\overline{3}m$ )	Mn centered $Zr_6Cl_{12}$ , Zr 6-conn [Li]	Ia	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (8.89 Å)
71147	$Li2Zr6FeCl15 (Im3m)$	Fe centered $Zr_6Cl_{12}$ , Zr 6-conn [Li]	Ia	$\overline{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (8.89 Å)
<i>WC</i> 6-conn $(4^9.6^6)$ , acs							
81234	$Eu(Ag(CN_2)_{3}(H_2O)_{3} (P6_{3}/mcm)$	Eu 9-coor/ $Ag(CN)_2$ spacers	Ia	3	3		$[010]$ $(6.69 \text{ Å})$

<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

<span id="page-10-0"></span>Table 9 Interpenetrating networks with nodes of different connectivities [\[26\]](#page-21-0)

Collection code	Compound (Sp. Gr.)	Nodes <sup>a</sup>	Class	Ζ	<b>PICVR</b>	Non-Transl	Transl
99793 <sup>b</sup>	3,4-conn $(8^3)_2(8^6)$ -Wells uniform $(8^3)(8^6)$ -b, tfa $Cs(B_9O_{14})$ (P222 <sub>1</sub> )	$B_3O_3$ 3-conn, $B_3O_3$ 4-conn	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$		$2-axis$	
3,4-conn $(4.8^2)(4.8^5)$ dmc <sup>c</sup> 201713	Ag <sub>2</sub> Hg <sub>S</sub> , $(P21/c)$ Imiterite	Ag 3-conn, S 4-conn	Ia	$\overline{2}$	2		$[100] (4.04 \text{ Å})$
412298	3,4-conn tetranodal $(4^2.6)(6^3)(4^2.6^3.8)(6^5.8)$ $Hg_2[B(CN)_4]_2$ ( <i>Pbcm</i> )	Hg 4-conn, B 3-conn	Ia	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$		$[100]$ (5.69 Å)
89686 <sup>b</sup>	Hg <sub>3</sub> OCl $(C2/c)$ Poyarkovite	3,4-conn pentanodal (4.8 <sup>2</sup> )(4.8 <sup>5</sup> ) VS = [4.8 <sub>4</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> ]( $c_{10}$ = 785)[4.8 <sub>4</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> .8 <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> ( $c_{10}$ = 777)[4.8 <sub>2</sub> .8 <sub>2</sub> ]( $c_{10}$ = 763,759,771] O 4-conn, Hg 3-conn [Cl]	Ia	2	$\overline{2}$		$[1/21/20]$ $(10.52 \text{ Å})$
3,6-conn $(4^3)_{2}(4^6.12^9)$ PrI <sub>2</sub> spn 404375 409272 404376 83581 <sup>b</sup>	$Cu_2(Mo_6Cl_{14})$ $(Ph\bar{3})$ $Cu_2(W_6Cl_{14})$ ( <i>Pn</i> 3) $Cu_2(Mo_6Br_{14})$ ( <i>Pn</i> 3) $Cu_2(W_6Br_{14})$ $(Ph\bar{3})$	Cu 3-conn, $Mo6Cl14$ 6-conn Cu 3-conn, $W_6Cl_{14}$ 6-conn Cu 3-conn, $Mo6Br14$ 6-conn Cu 3-conn, $W_6Br_{14}$ 6-conn	Ia Ia Ia Ia	$\overline{2}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{2}$	$\overline{c}$ 2 $\sqrt{2}$ $\overline{2}$		$[100]$ $(12.77 \text{ Å})$ $[100]$ $(12.81 \text{ Å})$ $[100]$ $(13.35 \text{ A})$ $[100]$ $(13.39 \text{ Å})$
86652	$\gamma$ -MnO <sub>2</sub> Ramsdellite, 3,6-conn trinodal $(4.6^2)(4^3)(4^4.6^8.8^3)$ $[Zn(H, O)]_2$ {S <sub>8</sub> [Re(CN)] <sub>6</sub> }(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>7</sub> ( <i>Pbcn</i> )	$S_8$ Re <sub>6</sub> 6-conn, Zn(CN) <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) 3-conn	<b>IIa</b>	$\overline{2}$			
4,12-conn $(4^{36} \cdot 6^{30})(4^4 \cdot 6^2)$ , Cu <sub>3</sub> Au ftw 32054 77887 <sup>b</sup>	$Pd_{13}Cu_{3}S_{7}$ ( $I\bar{4}3m$ ) $Pd_{16}S_7$ (14 3 <i>m</i> ) Vasilite	$S_4Pd_3Cu$ 12-conn S 4-conn/Pd spacers; Pd-Pd neglected $S_4Pd_4$ 12-conn S 4-conn/Pd spacers; Pd-Pd neglected	Ia Ia	$\overline{2}$ 2	$\overline{2}$ 2		$[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (7.69 Å) $[1/2 1/2 1/2]$ (7.73 Å)

<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

cObserved also in <sup>a</sup> Metal-Organic network in CSD (Refcode XAYYUR).

<span id="page-11-0"></span>Table 10

Non-equivalent and hetero-interpenetrating networks [\[28\]](#page-21-0)



<sup>a</sup>Atoms or groups indicated in [ ] are not considered in the topological analysis.

<sup>b</sup>Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

right). This is the Wells uniform  $(8^3)(8^6)$ -b network [\[4c\].](#page-17-0) The (3,4)-connected **dmc** net was previously found by us in CSD as refcode XAYYUR with the same kind of interpenetration (2-fold Class Ia) (see [Fig. 15](#page-15-0), center left). A net derived from packing of cubes observed in  $PrI_2$  (spn) is observed in four species where the 6 connected nodes are  $M_6X_{12}$  octahedra (see [Fig. 15,](#page-15-0) center right). The topology of Ramsdellite  $(\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>) [\[27\],](#page-21-0) a trinodal (3,6)-connected net, is observed in  $[Zn(H_2O)]_2$ {S<sub>8</sub>[Re(CN)]<sub>6</sub>}(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>7</sub> (866529) with the 6conn centers decorated with face-capped octahedra  $[S_8Re_6]$ . Of interest are also two examples,  $Pd_{13}Cu_3S_7$ (32054) and  $Pd_{16}S_7$  (77887), that show (4,12)-connected nets (2-fold interpenetrated) with the  $Cu<sub>3</sub>Au$  (ftw) topology, illustrated in [Fig. 15,](#page-15-0) bottom left.

## 3.6. Non-equivalent and hetero-interpenetrating nets

These are entangled 3D nets that are not related by translations or symmetry operations. When the nets are of the same kind we are in the case of ''non-equivalent'' interpenetration (already observed in CSD [\[1\]](#page-17-0) for few cases); if the nets are different we have the new case of ''hetero-interpenetration''. The Z values are described in terms of the sum of groups of equivalent nets. Inorganic interpenetrating networks of this family can differ for topology or composition, but also simply for small structural variations of the same architecture. These species are reported in Table 10 [\[28\].](#page-21-0) The list shows few structural types but some of these include many examples, as, in particular, the pyrochlore structure.

Compound  $Ta_4PS_{29}$  (201659) has been placed here because it contains two homochiral  $SrSi<sub>2</sub>$  (srs) nonequivalent nets that are threaded by 1D helical sulphur chains. Thus we can say that this interpenetration is of the type  $2(1 + 1) + 1D$ .

In  $LiNa<sub>2</sub>K(Fe<sub>1.63</sub>Mg<sub>0.37</sub>)(Si<sub>4</sub>O<sub>12</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  (Neptunite) the two interpenetrating  $ThSi<sub>2</sub>$  (ths) nets are not symmetry equivalent. The same non-equivalence is observed for the two interpenetrating **pcu** nets of  $Hg_3CdCl_2(SCN)$ 6

<span id="page-12-0"></span>



<sup>a</sup>In {A–H–B} the type of hydrogen bond; atoms indicated in [] are not considered in the topological analysis.

<sup>b</sup>Observed also in CSD (Refcode CYANAM01).

c Multiple entry: different structure determinations with different codes.

<sup>d</sup>Hydrogen atom positions are generated by Topos.

(412499). On the other hand,  $K_4[Pd(Se_4)_2][Pd(Se_6)_2]$ (71947) is remarkable because it contains two dia networks of different composition.

Hetero-interpenetration is dominated by the very large family of compounds with the pyrochlore structure. According to classic description they have the common formula  $A_2B_2X_6X'$  (X = F, Cl, O, OH; X' = F, O, OH, H2O, S[\)\[4a\].](#page-17-0) In ICSD there are approximately 600 Collection codes related to this structure type, that may be described as comprised of two mutually

<span id="page-13-0"></span>

Fig. 2. A different selection of nodes in  $Ta(PS_4)S_2$  (23284) can lead to the 3-connected srs net or to the 4-connected dia net.



Fig. 3. The hemi-decorated srs net in  $K(GaTe<sub>6</sub>O<sub>14</sub>)$  (280793), with alternating 3-connected O and 3-connected  $Te<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>$  triangles as nodes.

interpenetrated nets: one  $(X'A_2$  nodes) with the dia topology and the second  $(BX_3 \text{ nodes})$  6-connected with the dia-e topology (see [Fig. 16](#page-15-0)). The latter net is the 'edge net' derived from diamond and is also called crs (from the 'coordination' of the oxygen atoms in cristobalite) (see also [Fig. 11](#page-14-0) for another case of 'edge net').

In  $Li<sub>2</sub>Pt<sub>3</sub>B$  (84931) the Pt<sub>3</sub>B part forms a single rare 4connected lcy net with B nodes and Pt spacers, while the Li atoms give and interpenetrating srs net (see [Fig. 17\)](#page-16-0).

The family of general formula  $A_3B_3O_{11}$  (Sp.Gr. Pn3, 6 cases) shows a very interesting interpenetrated network topology. An example is  $La_3Ru_3O_{11}$  (100517) (see [Table 10](#page-11-0) and [Fig. 18](#page-16-0)). This structure is comprised of three interpenetrating nets, i.e., two equivalent **dia** nets and one nbo net [thus  $Z = 3(2 + 1)$ ]. The two dia nets alone form an interpenetrated system generated by translation (Class Ia). As shown in [Fig. 18](#page-16-0) the nodes of the dia networks are  $La_4O_4$  cubane-like units (decorated diamond) while the nodes of the nbo net are  $Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>$ dimetal groups (decorated NbO).



Fig. 4. Eglestonite: (top left) the 3-connected building block  $(Hg_2)_3(O/H)$ OH) showing the H-bond to give a 4-connected node; (top right) the idealized 4-fold srs net obtained considering the oxygen valence connectivity only  $[B \text{ (blue)}/Y \text{ (yellow)} \text{ and } G \text{ (green)}/R \text{ (red)} \text{ nets}$ related by a 2-fold axis;  $B/G$  related to  $Y/R$  by a inversion center; (bottom left) the simplified 2-fold 4-connected gsi net obtained considering the H-bonds; (bottom right) a single idealized gsi net.



Fig. 5. Two rare 3-connected nets: (left) augmented NbO net  $(4.12^2)$ (nbo-a) and (right) the binodal uniform  $(8^3)$  (etc).



Fig. 6. The new binodal 3-connected uniform  $(10^3)$  net observed in  $\beta$ -Ag3BO3 (32721): the nodes (left), a single net (middle) and the 2-fold interpenetrated array (right).

<span id="page-14-0"></span>

Fig. 7. A single adamantane cage decorated with  $Ag_4Cu_2S_4$  clusters in  $Ag_3CuS_2$  (67526) and the "non-normal" 3-fold dia net (three translationally equivalent nets, Class Ia).



Fig. 8. Observed borates decorating units.

Another interesting group of structures of composition  $[Ln_2(Pb_4O_4)](Al_6O_{12})$  consists of three interpenetrating nets, i.e., two equivalent dia nets and one sodalite (sod) net  $[Z = 3(2 + 1)]$ , illustrated in [Fig. 19.](#page-16-0) The dia nets are decorated by  $Pb_4O_4$  clusters joined by the Ln spacers and the sodalite net has Al tetrahedral nodes. We should mention here, that other cases of heterointerpenetration  $di$  + sod may be found depending on the choice of the representation level (bonding distances vs connectivity).



Fig. 9. The prototypical net of  $BeCl<sub>2</sub>$ : a T2- $Be<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>$  adamantane cage decorates the diamond net giving a topology classified as dia-a, the augmented diamond (decoration with tetrahedra).



Fig. 10. Different decorations of dia with both T2 and T3 (left) and pcu with fused T3 (right). White balls indicate the bridging S atoms.



Fig. 11. Rare 4-connected nets: (left) the Gismondine net (gis) and the edge net from srs (shown in the middle) called (srs-e) or also lcv (right). An edge net (also expanded net) is obtained from the original net by placing vertices in the middle of the edges, discarding the original vertices and edges, and joining the new vertices to enclose the coordination figure of the original vertices (as shown in thin lines superimposed on the srs net in the middle).



Fig. 12. Rare 4-connected nets: (left) square planar lvt and (right) ninodal pcu-h-e.

<span id="page-15-0"></span>

Fig. 13. The jsa Sulvanite trinodal 4-connected net as decoration of pcu by  $A_3B X_4$  cages.



Fig. 14. The cab 2-fold interpenetrated net and the cab "centered" net.

## 3.7. Hydrogen bonded interpenetrating 3D networks

The analysis of H-bonds effects on interpenetration has also been investigated. An example illustrating the impact on topology of the inclusion of H-bonds in addition to valence bonds in the rationalization of 3D interpenetrating nets has been illustrated above for Eglestonite (see [Fig. 4\)](#page-13-0). A list of 37 interpenetrating H-bonded 3D networks is given in [Table 11](#page-12-0) [\[29\];](#page-21-0) different topologies are observed, mainly diamond (dia), with 11 cases, followed by  $\alpha$ -Po (pcu), with 6 cases. Our investigation of these nets is based on the geometrical criteria previously illustrated, without any detailed analysis of the H-bond synthons [\[30\].](#page-22-0)

Though, generally speaking, H-bonds, considered in addition to valence bonds, could produce 3D networks by joining 0D (i.e., finite), 1D or 2D motifs, all the examples but two in [Table 11](#page-12-0) are based on 0D species. The two exceptions are  ${Cu[(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CS]<sub>3</sub>}Cl$  (281646) and  $\{Cu[(NH_2)_2\text{CS}]_3\}$ Br (281647), in which the  $Cu[(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CS]<sub>3</sub>$  moieties form 1D helical chains all running in the same direction that are interlinked via H-bond bridges involving the halides. This generates two interpenetrated ths nets (see [Fig. 20](#page-16-0)).



Fig. 15. The 6-conn acs net observed in WC (top left) and some binodal rare nets (tfa, dmc, spn, ftw, edi).



Fig. 16. The pyrochlore structure showing two hetero-interpenetrating nets, with the 4-connected dia and 6-connected dia-e or crs topologies (left); the latter net is the 'edge net' from diamond (right) (see also [Fig. 11\)](#page-14-0).

The same topology (ths) can be assigned to the 3-fold interpenetrated  $H_2Te_2O_3F_4$  (9653), that contains dinuclear molecules  $(HO)F<sub>2</sub>TeOTeF<sub>2</sub>(OH)$ , illustrated in [Fig. 21,](#page-16-0) if we take as nodes the Te atoms. Considering, on the other hand, the whole molecule as a 4-connected node a 3-fold dia architecture is obtained (for a similar case see [Fig. 2\)](#page-13-0).

An uncommon type of H-bond with bifurcated acceptor [\[30\]](#page-22-0) is observed in the 2-fold interpenetrated  $srs$  NH<sub>2</sub>CN (40446) (again if the whole molecule is considered as a 4-connected node a 2-fold dia

<span id="page-16-0"></span>

Fig. 17. The hetero-interpenetrating nets  $\text{lcy} + \text{srs}$  observed in Li2Pt3B (84931) showing the distorted octahedral coordination of the boron atom.



Fig. 18. The three schematized hetero-interpenetrating nets (2-fold  $dia + nbo)$  in the A<sub>3</sub>B<sub>3</sub>O<sub>11</sub> family (left): decoration of the nodes with the moieties shown in the middle leads to the network of  $La<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>3</sub>O<sub>11</sub>$ (100517) (right).



Fig. 19. The hetero-interpenetrating 2-fold dia nets and sodalite (sod) net in the  $[Ln_2(Pb_4O_4)](Al_6O_{12})$  species (left) and the idealized version (right).

architecture is obtained) and in the 2-fold interpenetrated sra  $(NH_4)[N(CN)_2]$  (413097) (see Fig. 22).

We have examined the interpenetrated networks of Ice VI, VII and VIII. Ice VI (16950) and the  $D_2O$  analog (201702) have 2-fold interpenetrated nets related to the Zeolite edingtonite (edi), Schläfli symbol  $(4^2.8^4)(4^3.8^3)_4$ (see [Fig. 15](#page-15-0) bottom right). Ice VII and VIII are similar,



Fig. 20. A single network of the 2-fold interpenetrated ths in  ${Cu[(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CS]<sub>3</sub>}Cl$  (281646) and  ${Cu[(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CS]<sub>3</sub>}Br$  (281647), formed via  $NH \cdots$  halogen  $\cdots$  HN bridges joining parallel 1D helical chains (left, the view is down the chain propagation direction and one chain is evidenced). The location of the chains relative to the ths net is also illustrated (right), two of them being evidenced in green and red.



Fig. 21. The different selection of nodes in  $H_2Te_2O_3F_4$  (9653).



Fig. 22. The H-bonds in the 2-fold interpenetrated sra net of (NH<sub>4</sub>)[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>] (413097).

both with 2-fold dia nets, but our analysis reveals that they belong to two different Classes (Ia and IIa, respectively). It is worth noting that this difference could affect some physical properties of the substances caused by translational symmetry (e.g., phonon spectra).

<span id="page-17-0"></span>

Fig. 23. The H-bonds in the 2-fold interpenetrated cooperite (pts) net found in  $(NH_4)(NO_3)$  (37128).

A 2-fold interpenetrated network with the cooperite topology (pts) is found for  $(NH_4)(NO_3)$  (37128) (see Fig. 23).

The  $\alpha$ -Po family contains interesting examples: the decametal clusters  $M\text{Mo}_9\text{O}_{32}$  [ $M = \text{Mn}$  (67575), Ni  $(49909)$ ] are linked via NH<sup>+</sup> spacers into 2-fold interpenetrated pcu nets. Moreover, hexacyanide complexes like  $Co(CN)_{6}^{3-}$  in compound  $H_3Co(CN)_{6}$  (2862) give interesting 3-fold interpenetrated pcu arrays via CN–H–NC bridges.

## 4. Conclusions

We have discussed above the results of our investigations with TOPOS of interpenetrating 3D inorganic networks in ICSD, sustained both by valence and H-bond interactions. Comprehensive lists of Collection codes have been obtained, that have been organized accordingly to the different node connectivity and net topology ([Tables 4–11](#page-5-0)). Compared with MOFs these inorganic nets show a limited degree of interpenetration (almost all have  $Z = 2$ ); consequently classes are also limited to Ia or IIa (but note that the first example of Class IIb has been established within these species). The choice of the nodes in the ICSD networks was proven to be more difficult and arbitrary than in the previously investigated CSD cases. Alternative views of the nets were frequently found, resulting in motifs of different topology, and adopting a different level of representation can even transform an interpenetrated array into a noninterpenetrated one and vice versa.

The results confirm that TOPOS is a powerful tool for the analysis of network interpenetration and that its use can also fruitfully allow finding alternative and less usual rationalizations of inorganic materials.

#### Acknowledgments

I.A.B. and V.A.B. appreciate the financial support (Grant No. 04-07-90050) of the Russian Foundation for Basic Research. L.C., G.C. and D.M.P. thanks MURST for financing the PRIN 2004-2005.

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