

Book reviews

Landolt-Börnstein. Numerical Data and Functional Relationships in Science and Technology. New Series. Editor in Chief, K.-H. Hellwege, Group III, Crystal and Solid State Physics. Vol. 7, Crystal Structure Data of Inorganic Compounds. Part c1, Key Element, N; by W. Pies and A. Weiss (Eds. K.-H. Hellwege and A.H. Hellwege). Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York 1978, xxv + 260 pages, DM 295.

This book represents a further addition to the set of volumes on Crystal Structure Data of Inorganic Compounds, which deals with crystal structures of inorganic substances which have been examined by X-ray, neutron, or electron diffraction. It gives details of 1133 nitrogen-containing compounds, viz. (i) ammonia and derivatives, including amides, imides, and nitrides; (ii) azides; (iii) oxo-compounds of nitrogen; and (iv) further nitrogen compounds. This last section deals mainly with cyclic S—N compounds, including some metal derivatives such as $\text{Ni}(\text{HN}_2\text{S}_2)_2$, $\text{Pd}(\text{NS}_3)_2$, $\text{Pd}(\text{NS})_2 \cdot \text{NH}_3$, $\text{Hg}(\text{NSF})_2$, and also the cyclic silazane compound $(\text{Cl}_2\text{SiNH})_3$. The entry for each compound lists the chemical formula (and mineral name and trivial name where appropriate), the space group, lattice constants, number of formula units in the unit cell, density, structural type, the scope of the determination, the diffraction method used, and sometimes additional information on colour, optical properties, phase diagram, etc. As usual, the standard of production is very high. The price will also appear very high to purchasers in currencies other than German, Swiss or Japanese (e.g. the approximate U.S. dollar and Pound Sterling prices on the date of this review are \$160 and £80, respectively), but it has to be paid by any organization wishing to take advantage of the excellent service on structural data which this series provides.

*School of Molecular Sciences,
University of Sussex,
Brighton, BN1 9QJ (Great Britain)*

COLIN EABORN