# DERIVATOGRAPHIC STUDIES ON DEHYDRATION OF SALT HYDRATES AND THEIR DEUTERIUM OXIDE ANALOGUES. II

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ABSTRACT

Non-isothermal thermal studies of the dehydration of double salt hydrates of the type  $M(I)_2SO_4 \cdot M(II)SO_4 \cdot 6H_2O$  and their deuterium oxide analogues were carried out, where M(I) = K(I) and M(II) = Mg(II), Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II). Thermal parameters like activation energy, order of reaction, enthalpy change, etc. were evaluated from the analysis of TG, DTA and DTG curves. Activation energy required for dehydration of the salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues did not differ much except the Mg(II) salt. Thermal stabilities of the salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues were discussed. The order of reaction was always found unity. The values of  $\Delta H$  were within 12–14 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.

## INTRODUCTION

The thermal analyses of similar type of salts were carried out by a few workers<sup>1.2</sup>. These works were mostly carried out under isothermal conditions. Very recently non-isothermal kinetics of dehydration of single salt hydrates and some similar double salt hydrates were carried out by several groups of workers<sup>3-10</sup>. But none compared the thermal properties of the double salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues, though. recently a few workers<sup>11,12</sup> carried out the work on the relative thermal stability of some single salt hydrates and their D<sub>2</sub>O analogues. Moreover, none compared the thermal parameters like activation energy, order of reaction, enthalpy change, etc. from the simultaneous analysis of TG, DTA and DTG curves. In continuation to our previous work<sup>13</sup> the present paper deals with the dehydration of  $K_2SO_4 \cdot M(II)SO_4 \cdot 6H_2O$  where M(II) = Mg(II), Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Zn(II) and their deuterium oxide analogues. The evaluation of activation energy of dehydration of the above salt hydrates was made from the simultaneous analyses of TG, DTA and DTG curves. In addition to the evaluation of activation energy, enthalpy change and order of reaction were determined for each step of dehydration. It also shows the influence of deuteration and of the change of cation on the thermal properties of the salt hydrates.

#### EXPERIMENTAL

Double salt hydrates are prepared following the standard procedure and their deuterium oxide analogues were prepared by dissolving an equimolecular mixture of the anhydrous single salt in  $D_2O$  and subsequent crystallisation. A Paulik Paulik Erdey MOM derivatograph has been used for thermal analysis. A platinum crucible was used and the heating rate was  $1.5^{\circ}C \text{ min}^{-1}$ . The particle size of the samples was within 150–200 mesh. The volume of the sample in each case was the same.

## RESULTS

The double sulphate hydrates of Co(II) and Zn(II) and their deuterium oxide analogues lose water molecules in two steps, i.e.,

$$K_2M(SO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O \rightarrow K_2M(SO_4)_2 \cdot 2H_2O \rightarrow K_2M(SO_4)_2,$$

observed from the respective derivatograms (Fig. 1). For Ni(II) salt, in the first step, five and half molecules of water are eliminated and the rest in the second step (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Derivatograms for the dehydration of  $K_2SO_4 \cdot CoSO_4 \cdot 6H_2O(II)$ ,  $K_2SO_4 \cdot NiSO_4 \cdot 6H_2O(III)$ and  $K_2SO_4 \cdot ZnSO_4 \cdot 6H_2O(V)$ .

A similar phenomenon is observed in the case of dehydration of its deuterium oxide analogue. The double salt hydrate of Mg(II) loses water in three steps (Fig. 2), i.e.,

$$\begin{array}{l} K_2Mg(SO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O \rightarrow K_2Mg(SO_4)_2 \cdot 4H_2O \rightarrow \\ \\ \rightarrow K_2Mg(SO_4)_2 \cdot 2H_2O \rightarrow K_2Mg(SO_4)_2 \end{array}$$

But its deuterium oxide analogue loses all six molecules of  $D_2O$  in a single step (Fig. 2). The double salt hydrate of Cu(II) loses water in two steps as is evident from the TG curve, i.e.,

$$K_2Cu(SO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O \rightarrow K_2Cu(SO_4)_2 \cdot 2H_2O \rightarrow K_2Cu(SO_4)_2$$

but its DTG and DTA curves show multiple steps of dehydration (Fig. 3). On



Fig. 2. Derivatograms for the dehydration of K2SO4 MgSO4 6H2O(I) and K2SO4 MgSO4 6D2O(I'



Fig. 3. Derivatograms for the dehydration of  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O(IV) and  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O(IV).

Temp. ranges (°č	DTG peak C) temp. (°C)	Activati (kcal mu	on energi ol <sup>- 1</sup> )	63	Enthalpy changes
		rg	DTG	рта	(. 1011 INON)
504·4H20 80-105	86	0,00	0,69	0'69	13.3
SO4' 2H <sub>2</sub> O 120-155	132	103.5	103.5	103.5	13.4
SO4 163-190	166	168.0	168.0	168.0	13.5
SO4 85-195	117	25.5	30.6	30.6	13.8
04.2H30 87-120	102	30.7	35.2	35.2	14.5
164-210	177	56.2	56.2	56.2	13.5
04'2D <sub>3</sub> 0 90-120	102	30.6	36,8	36.8	13.4
168-210	178	46,0	46,0	46.0	13.9
04.0.5H20 95-270	150	23.0	23.0	25.1	12.4
04.0.5D20 95-270	153	23,0	23.0	26.2	13.2
104.2H20 45-105	95	23.0	I	I	14.8
304 125-180	171	33.2	I	I	I
\$04.2D20 45-105	95	24.8	ł	1	13.8"
130-185	165	39,0	I	ł	1
104'2H <sub>2</sub> 0 56-111	107	34.5	34.5	ł	12.6
112162	131	57.2	I	1	I
04, 2D <sub>2</sub> 0 86-120	106	33.8	33.8	ł	14.2*
304 130-165	128	64.5	I	I	I
where DTA curves are too much overla	tpped.				
504, 4H <sub>2</sub> 0 504, 2H <sub>2</sub> 0 504 504 504 504 504 504 504 504 504 50	ranges (°( 80-105 120-155 163-190 85-195 87-120 164-210 90-120 96-210 95-270 95-270 95-270 95-270 95-210 112-162 130-185 56-111 112-162 86-120 130-165 130-165	ranges (°C) temp. (°C) 80-105 86 120-155 132 163-190 166 85-195 117 87-120 102 164-210 177 90-120 102 164-210 177 90-120 102 168-210 178 95-270 153 45-105 95 130-185 165 56-111 107 112-162 131 86-120 106 130-165 128 130-165 128	ranges (°C) temp, (°C) (kcul m)   TG 7G 7G   80-105 86 09,0   120-155 132 103,5   163-190 166 168,0   163-190 166 168,0   163-190 166 103,5   164-210 177 25,5   87-120 102 30,7   164-210 177 25,5   90-120 102 30,6   164-210 177 25,5   90-120 178 46,0   95-270 153 23,0   95-270 153 23,0   95-270 153 23,0   95-270 153 23,0   96-111 107 34,5   112-162 131 34,5   112-162 131 34,5   112-162 131 37,2   112-162 131 37,2   112-162 131 34,5   112-162 131 34,5   112-163 128 54,5	ranges (°C) temp. (°C) (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )   TG DTG   7G DTG   80-105 86 u90 69.0   80-105 86 u90 69.0   80-105 86 u90 69.0   87-120 102 30.7 35.2   87-120 107 25.5 30.6   87-120 107 35.2 36.8   87-120 107 35.2 30.7 35.2   90-120 177 56.2 56.2 56.2   90-120 178 46.0 46.0 46.0   95-270 159 23.0 23.0 23.0   95-270 159 23.0 23.0 23.0   95-270 159 23.0 23.0 23.0 14.5   125-180 171 31.2 14.5 14.5 14.5   130-165 128 166 33.8 33.8 33.8   112-162 131 90.6 33.8 33.8 13.8   1120-165 128 12	ranges (°C) temp. (°C) (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )   TG DTG DTA   80-105 86 v9.0 69.0   80-105 86 v9.0 69.0 69.0   80-105 86 v9.0 69.0 69.0   80-105 86 103.5 103.5 103.5 103.5   120-155 132 103.5 103.5 103.5 68.0   87-120 102 30.7 35.2 35.2 35.2   87-120 102 30.7 35.2 35.2 35.2   90-120 177 25.5 30.6 46.0 46.0   87-120 102 30.7 35.2 35.2 35.2   90-120 177 25.5 30.6 46.0 46.0   9168-210 177 35.2 35.1 25.1 25.1 25.2   9168-210 178 45.00 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1 25.1

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TABLE 1

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deuteration of the Cu(II) salt hydrate, the first endotherm splits into two and the resolution of the second endotherm is decreased (Fig. 3). The DTG peak temperature and temperature range of dehydration for the double salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues are given in Table 1. Enthalpy changes for each step of dehydration of the double salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues were evaluated by the method of Sano<sup>14</sup> using copper sulphate pentahydrate as the standard and the values are given in the Table 1.  $\Delta H$  values were evaluated from the overall area of the DTA curves where the DTA curves are too much overlapped. Activation energies for each step of dehydration of the salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues were evaluated from the analysis of TG curves using Freeman and Carroll's equation<sup>15</sup>. The results are tabulated in Table 1 and the curves are shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The activation energies for each step of dehydration (wherever possible) were also evaluated from the analysis of the DTG curve using the method of Dave and Chopra<sup>16</sup> and the method described in our earlier work<sup>13</sup> and also from the analysis of DTA curves using Brochardt's<sup>17</sup> equation for first order reaction. All these values are tabulated in Table 1 and the corresponding curves are shown in Figs. 6 and 7. The order of reaction was found to be unity for the dehydration of all the mentioned



Fig. 4. Plots of  $\Delta \log \frac{d\omega}{dt} / \Delta \log W_r$  vs.  $\frac{\Delta T^{-1}}{\Delta \log W_r} \times 10^3$  [from the TG curves] for dehydration of K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O (Ia), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·

2H<sub>2</sub>O (Ib), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>(Ic), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (IIa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>(Ib), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O (IIa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (IVa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (IVa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CuSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (Va) and K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·ZnSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·ZnSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (Va).



Fig. 5. Plots of  $\Delta \log \frac{dw}{dt} / \Delta \log W_r$  vs.  $\frac{\Delta T^{-1}}{\Delta \log W_r} \times 10^3$  for the dehydration (from TG curves) of  $K_2SO_4$ ·MgSO\_4·6D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·MgSO\_4(1),  $K_2SO_4$ ·CoSO\_4·6D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CoSO\_4·2D\_2O(II'a),  $K_2SO_4$ ·CoSO\_4·2D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CoSO\_4(II'b),  $K_2SO_4$ ·NiSO\_4·6D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CoSO\_4·NiSO\_4·6D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CoSO\_4·2D\_2O(III'a),  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·CuSO\_4·6D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O(IV'a),  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O(IV'a),  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O(V'a) and  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·2D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O(V'a) and  $K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·2D\_2O  $\rightarrow K_2SO_4$ ·CuSO\_4·

double salt hydrates and their deuterium oxide analogues. X-ray analyses of the salt hydrates and their corresponding deuterium oxide analogues show that they are isomorphuos to each other.

### DISCUSSION

The nature of decomposition of double salt hydrates of the potassium series differs from the corresponding ammonium series. In the ammonium series<sup>13</sup> complete delydration takes place in two steps in the case of Mg(II) salt whereas, the corresponding salt hydrate of the potassium series loses water molecules in three distinct steps. On complete deuteration of this salt hydrate of the K(I) series dehydration takes place in a single step whereas, the corresponding D<sub>2</sub>O analogue of the ammonium series follows the same pattern of dehydration as the aquated salt. Though the enthalpy changes of the Mg(II) salts of both NH<sub>4</sub>(I) and K(I) are nearly equal, the activation energy of the dehydration of the Mg(II) salt of the K(I) series is too high with respect to the corresponding NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series. The activation energy of dehydration of the Mg(II) salt hydrate of the K(I) series is too high with respect to the corresponding NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series. The activation energy of dehydration of the Mg(II) salt hydrate of the K(I) series is too high with respect to the corresponding NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series. The activation energy of dehydration of the Mg(II) salt hydrate of the K(I) series decreases considerably on deuteration (Table 1). This is probably due to the complete change in the nature of dehydration

of the corresponding D<sub>2</sub>O-analogue. The thermal stability of the same salt hydrate of the K(I) series is less than the corresponding  $NH_4(I)$  series. In the case of the K(I) series of the same salt hydrate, it is observed that the thermal stability increases noticeably on deuteration of the hydrate, whereas, in the  $NH_{4}(I)$  series a very slight increase of thermal stability is observed on deuteration. In the case of the Co(II) salt of the present series, the dehydration takes place in two distinct steps whereas, the corresponding salt hydrate of the  $NH_4(I)$  series shows a single step of dehydration. The thermal stability and the enthalpy change of the Co(II) salt of the K(I) series are less than those of the  $NH_2(I)$  series, whereas, the activation energy of dehydration of the same salt hydrate is higher than that of the corresponding  $NH_{4}(I)$  series. In this case, like in the NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series there is practically no effect on the thermal properties of the corresponding deuterated salt hydrate. On dehydration of the Ni(II) salt thermal properties like DTG peak temperature and activation energy do not change significantly with respect to the  $NH_4(I)$  salt although the nature of dehydration is different from that of the NH<sub>4</sub>(I) salt. For the corresponding salt hydrate of the NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series, the  $\Delta H$  value is higher than that of the K(I) salt. Here, there is also



Fig. 6. Arrhenius plots of log k vs.  $T^{-1} \times 10^3$  from the DTG curves for the dehydration of  $K_2SO_4$ . MgSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O(Ia), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(Ib), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>(Ic), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>(I'), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(IIa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>(IIb) K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O(II'a), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>(IIb) K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O(II'a), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O(III), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·NiSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(Va) and K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>· ZnSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·ZnSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O(V'a).

practically no effect on deuteration of the Ni(II) salt of the K(I) series. In the Cu(II) salt, the nature of dehydration is completely different from that of the corresponding ammonium salt hydrate. On deuteration of the K(I) salt hydrate the first endotherm splits into two, and the resolution of the second endotherm is decreased (Fig. 2). Thermal stability, activation energy, and enthalpy change are higher for the ammonium salt than for the corresponding salt of the potassium series. In our previous work<sup>13</sup> it is observed that the double salt hydrate of the Zn(II) salt of the ammonium series loses water molecules in a single step whereas, the corresponding salt hydrate of K(I) series eliminates water molecules in two steps. The thermal stability and enthalpy change of the Zn(II) salt of the NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series are higher than that of the corresponding K(I) salt whereas, the reverse applies for the activation energy. Here also there is practically no effect on the thermal properties due to deuteration of the same salts.

In the ammonium series<sup>13</sup> the highest value of  $\Delta H$  was ~18 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> whereas in the present series it is only 14.8 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. With respect to the first DTG peak temperature the increasing order of thermal stability is as follows Mg(II) < Cu(II) <Co(II) <Zn(II) <Ni(II). This order is maintained also in the NH<sub>4</sub>(I) series except Mg(II) where the order is reversed. The activation energy for the first step of dehydration decreases in the order Mg(II) >Zn(II) >Co(II) >Ni(II). The activation energy value of the Cu(II) salt of the K(I) series is equal to the Ni(II) salt of the same



Fig. 7. Arrhenius plots of log k vs.  $T^{-1} \times 10^3$  from DTA curves for the dehydration of  $K_2SO_4$ . MgSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O(la), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(lb), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>(Ic), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·MgSO<sub>4</sub>(I), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(lIa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>(Ib), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O(lIa), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>(Ib), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O(lI'a), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·CoSO<sub>4</sub>·2D<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>· CoSO<sub>4</sub>(II'b), K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·NiSO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O $\rightarrow$  K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·NiSO<sub>4</sub>·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O(III) and K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·NiSO<sub>4</sub>·6D<sub>2</sub>O $\rightarrow$ K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·NiSO<sub>4</sub>·0.5D<sub>2</sub>O(III').

series. In the ammonium series these values had an order with increase of atomic weight of the central metal which is absent in this case.

The difference in thermal properties of dehydration between the  $NH_4(I)$  and K(I) salts is due to natural cause, i.e., slight difference in ionic size of  $NH_4^+$  (1.43) and  $K^+$  (1.33). We attempted to isolate the Cd(II) and Mn(II) double salt hydrate but could not succeed. The same attempt was made by Tutton<sup>18</sup> the father of these salt hydrates. He observed that these two salt hydrates crystallised in unequal proportions. Moreover, the salt hydrates lose water as soon as the crystals are removed from their mother liquor.

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