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**The crystal structure of wagnerite**

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**Mineralogia.** — *The crystal structure of wagnerite* (\*). Nota (\*\*) di ALESSANDRO CODA, GIUSEPPE GIUSEPPETTI e CARLA TADINI, presentata dal Socio G. CAROBBI.

**RIASSUNTO.** — La wagnerite  $Mg_2F(PO_4)$  cristallizza nel gruppo spaziale  $P_{21}/c$ , con 16 unità stecchiometriche nella cella elementare e con costanti reticolari:  $a = 9,644$ ,  $b = 12,679$ ,  $c = 11,957$ ,  $\beta = 108^\circ 18'$ .

La determinazione della struttura è stata realizzata per mezzo di fotogrammi Weissenberg dei livelli da 0 a 8 secondo l'asse  $b$ , radiazione  $CuK_\alpha$ . Dai fotogrammi ottenuti si notava che i riflessi  $(h k l)$  con  $k$  pari avevano una intensità media superiore a quelli con  $k$  dispari. Escludendo questi ultimi riflessi la struttura poteva riferirsi ai tre periodi reticolari:  $a, b/2, c$ , con una pseudocella appartenente al gruppo spaziale  $I_{2/c}$ .

Basandosi su questa pseudocella ed eseguendo una sintesi di Patterson tridimensionale con i soli riflessi con  $k$  pari, si ricavarono le coordinate degli atomi di magnesio, fosforo e ossigeno. Le differenze strutturali fra le due pseudocelle costituenti la vera cella elementare furono attribuite in modo preminente agli atomi di fluoro, per le cui posizioni si avanzò una adeguata ipotesi.

Le sezioni di densità elettronica eseguite utilizzando anche i riflessi con  $k$  dispari confermarono l'ipotesi. La struttura fu successivamente raffinata con alcuni cicli di minimi quadrati sulle coordinate e sui parametri termici isotropi, raggiungendo un fattore di discordanza  $R$  di 0,064 relativo a tutti i riflessi osservati, eccetto quelli affetti da estinzione.

Nella struttura sono presenti ottaedri di coordinazione  $MgO_4F_2$  non regolari, poliedri a coordinazione cinque  $MgO_4F$  riferibili a bipiramidi trigonali alquanto distorte ed infine gruppi tetraedrici  $PO_4$  piuttosto regolari; essi sono collegati secondo un concatenamento tridimensionale. Ogni atomo di ossigeno partecipa alla coordinazione di due atomi di magnesio e di uno di fosforo, mentre ogni atomo di fluoro è coordinato a tre diversi atomi di magnesio. Tutte le distanze di legame rientrano nella norma.

#### INTRODUCTION.

Wagnerite  $Mg_2F(PO_4)$  was firstly found in quartz veins traversing clay slates at Höllgraben near Warfen and at Radelgraben near Bischofshofen in Salzburg (Austria) (Fuchs, 1821) [1].

The morphological, optical, physical and chemical properties of wagnerite were studied by various Authors and reported by Dana (1951) [2]. They are summarized as follows:

monoclinic prismatic,  $0.957 : 1 : 0.753$ ,  $\beta = 108^\circ 7'$ ;  
habit prismatic  $[001]$ ; cleavages  $\{100\}$  and  $\{120\}$  imperfect;  
specific gravity 3.15; luster vitreous; colour variable.

Optical data: biaxial positive,  $2V = 28^\circ 24'$ ,  $n_x = 1.568$ ,  $n_y = 1.572$ ,  $n_z = 1.582$ ,  $Y \equiv b$ ,  $Z \wedge c = -21^\circ 30'$ .

(\*) This work was performed in the Sezione di Pavia del Centro Nazionale di Cristallografia del C.N.R., Istituto di Mineralogia dell'Università.

(\*\*) Pervenuta all'Accademia il 10 ottobre 1967.

Chemical analyses are reported from wagnerite from Werfen and Bamle and they are consistent with the stoichiometric unit  $Mg_2F(PO_4)$ , with some divalent Fe and Mn replacing Mg.

### EXPERIMENTAL.

The X-ray diffraction data were collected by using a crystal of wagnerite from Werfen, which was ground into spherical shape ( $R = 0.35$  mm).

The lattice parameters were determined by measuring, with a single crystal diffractometer, the  $2\theta$ -values of a series of high order reflections, then applying the least-squares method to the relation between the interplanar distances and the lattice parameters.

They are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}a &= 9.644 \pm 0.007 \text{ \AA} \\b &= 12.679 \pm 0.008 \text{ \AA} \\c &= 11.957 \pm 0.008 \text{ \AA} \\\beta &= 108^\circ 18' \pm 9'\end{aligned}$$

that agree with those reported in literature (Strunz, 1966) [3]:

$$a = 11.92 \text{ \AA}, \quad b = 12.53 \text{ \AA}, \quad c = 9.65 \text{ \AA}, \quad \beta = 108^\circ 7'.$$

The parameters  $a$  and  $c$  were interchanged in the present work with respect to the latter data in order to achieve the conventional orientation of the International Tables.

The chemical composition assumed for the structure analysis was  $Mg_2F(PO_4)$ , as reported in the literature. Sixteen stoichiometric units are contained in the unit cell ( $Z = 16$ ); the density so calculated is  $3.11 \text{ g/cm}^3$  (observed specific gravity 3.15).

The space group is  $P2_1/c$ .

Equiinclined Weissenberg photographs of the integrated reflections were taken by the multiple-film technique and  $CuK_\alpha$  radiation,  $b$  being the rotation axis and  $k$  ranging from 0 to 8.

The evaluation of the intensities was accomplished with a Nonius microdensitometer; the independent reflections above the limits of detection were 1197 out of the 2154 ones taken into consideration.

The corrections applied to the intensities were concerned with the absorption (linear coefficient  $\mu = 100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $CuK_\alpha$ ), the  $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2$  spot doubling and the  $Lp$  factor.

The intensities for the different levels were approximately on the same scale because of the equal exposure times; better scale factors were obtained after the first calculation of the structure factors by applying the relation  $\Sigma F_o = \Sigma F_c$  level by level, and they were improved during the least-squares refinement.

## STRUCTURE ANALYSIS.

The following features were evident from a simple inspection of the Weiss-enberg photographs:

1) the average intensity of the general reflections with  $k$  even is much higher than that of the reflections with  $k$  odd;

2) if one assumes that the general reflections with  $k$  odd are absent, and the remaining reflections are indexed on the basis of a monoclinic pseudo-cell with  $a_p = a$ ,  $b_p = b/2$ ,  $c_p = c$ , it is possible to derive the space group  $I2/c$  according to the observed extinctions and excluding very few feeble reflections (the extinctions are as follows:  $h'k'l$  with  $h + k' + l$  odd,  $h \circ l$  with  $l$  odd: here  $k' = k/2$ ).

The previous points 1) and 2) induced to think that a rough structure could be obtained by using only the general reflections with  $k$  even and by working on the pseudo-cell in the space group  $I2/c$ ,  $Z = 8$ .

The three-dimensional Patterson synthesis calculated by using only the reflections with  $k$  even gave the positions of two non-equivalent Mg-atoms, of all the P-atoms and of four non equivalent O-atoms surrounding phosphor.

A three-dimensional electron density synthesis was successively obtained on the basis of these coordinates. The locations of the peaks were consistent with the parameters assumed for Mg, P and O, and new maxima appeared which reasonably could be attributed to F-atoms; however in the entire pseudo-cell a double number of peaks (16 on two series of non-equivalent positions) was observed for respect to what one could expect (8 on only one series of equipoints), and their average height was about half that of the O-atoms.

This observation allowed the formulation of a hypothesis on the true structure of wagnerite. One could think that in the two pseudo-cells superimposed along  $b$ , in order to form the true unit cell, all the atoms, but fluorine, occupied identical positions, whereas F-atoms lay in different places distributed among the 16 positions of the observed peaks. Eight of such positions should be occupied in the lower pseudo-cell, and the remaining in the upper one, according to the true space group. In other words the doubling of the period along  $b$  in the passage from the pseudo-cell to the true cell should be imputable mainly to the location of the F-atoms.

According to this hypothesis a model of structure was worked out in the correct space group  $P2_1/c$  starting from the positions of the atoms in the pseudo-cell: obviously only the F-atoms contributed to the structure factors with  $k$  odd.

The multiplicity of a general equipoint in the space group  $I2/c$  is 8, whereas it is 4 in the space group  $P2_1/c$ . Since the real cell contains a number of atoms double of that corresponding to the pseudo-cell, each series of equivalent positions in the latter is transformed in four series of equivalent positions in the true cell.

TABLE I.  
*Atomic coordinates and their standard deviations (in parentheses).*

Atom	$x/a$	$y/b$	$z/c$	$B (\text{\AA}^2)$
Mg(1) . . . . .	0.5519 (3)	0.0708 (4)	0.9131 (2)	0.71 (5)
Mg(2) . . . . .	0.4661 (3)	0.0697 (4)	0.6003 (2)	0.73 (5)
Mg(3) . . . . .	0.0458 (3)	0.1820 (3)	0.9195 (2)	0.47 (5)
Mg(4) . . . . .	0.9648 (3)	0.1782 (4)	0.6071 (2)	0.43 (5)
Mg(5) . . . . .	0.1907 (3)	0.0193 (3)	0.1900 (2)	0.35 (4)
Mg(6) . . . . .	0.7896 (3)	0.0040 (3)	0.3071 (2)	0.28 (4)
Mg(7) . . . . .	0.3066 (3)	0.2316 (3)	0.3134 (2)	0.54 (5)
Mg(8) . . . . .	0.7069 (3)	0.2457 (3)	0.1947 (2)	0.36 (4)
P(1) . . . . .	0.1115 (2)	0.0764 (3)	0.4257 (2)	0.36 (3)
P(2) . . . . .	0.8787 (2)	0.0716 (3)	0.0760 (2)	0.34 (3)
P(3) . . . . .	0.3836 (2)	0.1753 (3)	0.0752 (2)	0.35 (4)
P(4) . . . . .	0.6200 (2)	0.1781 (3)	0.4235 (2)	0.36 (4)
O(1) . . . . .	0.1766 (6)	0.1114 (6)	0.3258 (5)	0.65 (10)
O(2) . . . . .	0.7981 (6)	0.0943 (6)	0.1646 (5)	0.63 (9)
O(3) . . . . .	0.3160 (6)	0.1430 (7)	0.1708 (5)	0.90 (10)
O(4) . . . . .	0.6921 (6)	0.1501 (7)	0.3296 (5)	0.97 (10)
O(5) . . . . .	0.2436 (6)	0.0469 (6)	0.5355 (5)	0.68 (9)
O(6) . . . . .	0.7674 (6)	0.0539 (6)	0.9529 (5)	0.74 (9)
O(7) . . . . .	0.2635 (6)	0.2030 (6)	0.9601 (5)	0.68 (10)
O(8) . . . . .	0.7387 (6)	0.2032 (6)	0.5398 (5)	0.67 (10)
O(9) . . . . .	0.9858 (6)	0.0180 (7)	0.6208 (5)	0.92 (10)
O(10) . . . . .	0.0227 (6)	0.0272 (7)	0.8844 (5)	0.66 (10)
O(11) . . . . .	0.4843 (6)	0.2291 (7)	0.6180 (5)	0.76 (10)
O(12) . . . . .	0.5190 (6)	0.2252 (7)	0.8817 (5)	0.82 (10)
O(13) . . . . .	0.4731 (6)	0.0836 (8)	0.0511 (5)	0.98 (10)
O(14) . . . . .	0.5190 (6)	0.0877 (8)	0.4393 (5)	1.01 (10)
O(15) . . . . .	0.0265 (6)	0.1659 (7)	0.4561 (5)	0.65 (10)
O(16) . . . . .	0.9831 (6)	0.1611 (8)	0.0688 (5)	0.85 (10)
F(1) . . . . .	0.4171 (5)	0.0475 (5)	0.7548 (4)	1.16 (8)
F(2) . . . . .	0.6706 (5)	0.0828 (5)	0.7146 (4)	1.17 (8)
F(3) . . . . .	0.1724 (5)	0.1625 (5)	0.7200 (4)	1.22 (9)
F(4) . . . . .	0.9139 (5)	0.2044 (5)	0.7598 (4)	1.18 (8)

In the suggested model the four series corresponding to each unique series of atoms in the pseudo-cell were still related by the symmetry of the space group  $I\bar{2}/c$ ; the successive refinements slightly changed this situation, showing that also the Mg, P and O-atoms give a little contribution to the reflections with  $k$  odd.

The agreement between the observed and calculated structure factors was satisfactory, thus supporting the suggested model which represented the starting point for a refinement by means of the application of six cycles of the least-squares method.

Two cycles were carried out on an Olivetti Elea 6001 computer, using a full matrix program by Sgarlata (1965) [4]. Four more cycles were carried out by using the program of Busing and Levy for the IBM 7040 computer. The reflections affected by extinction and the unobservable ones (except those with a value of  $F_c$  higher than the minimum observable) were excluded from the least-squares calculations.

During the first four cycles the positional parameters as well as the isotropic thermal factors were refined. In the fifth cycle the refining of the anisotropic thermal parameters was attempted, but several coefficients without physical significance appeared, probably showing that the number of involved parameters was too high in comparison with the available experimental data. The anisotropic refinement was no longer tried and a new cycle was carried out with isotropic thermal factors. The last changes of the parameters were, on the average, many times lower than the corresponding standard deviations: so the refinement was stopped.

The final atomic parameters and their standard deviations are listed in Table I. The observed and calculated structure factors are compared in Table II.

An overall R index, referred to the structure factors, was calculated by assigning a value of half of the minimum observed to the intensities of the 150 reflections which were visible, but below the limit of detection of the microdensitometer, furthermore a value of a quarter of the minimum observed to the intensities of the remaining 807 unobservable reflections. This overall R index dropped from 0.35 at the beginning of the refinement to 0.105 at the end.

The final R index for the observed reflections, excluding those affected by extinction, was 0.064.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE STRUCTURE.

The crystal structure of wagnerite is more easily described in terms of coordination polyhedra. Three kinds of such polyhedra are present, that is: fairly regular tetrahedra  $\text{PO}_4$ , distorted octahedra  $\text{MgO}_4\text{F}_2$  and distorted trigonal bipyramids  $\text{MgO}_4\text{F}$ , which are joined to one another by sharing either edges or vertices, in such a way as to build up a three-dimensional framework.

TABLE II.

An asterisk marks the reflections affected by extinction. The sign ° marks the unobservable reflections and should be read as "less than". The absent low-angle reflections were screened by the X-ray beam stop.

*Continued:* TABLE II.

$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$	$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$	$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$	$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$	$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$	$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$	$\pm 1$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$C$								
4	10	132	-102	9	-5	157	-93	3	-3	215	-210	7	8	80	66	1	-11	90	52	6	-1	839	-814	0	7	102	76	5	2	379	396	-11			
4	6	966	938	9	6	57	-93	7	-4	99	-50	7	-7	23	73	12	659	-680	2	*8	805	-810	0	8	103	11	6	-2	103	158	72				
4	11	75	-56	9	-6	176	-73	7	-4	107	-120	7	8	134	-126	-1	-12	738	-538	6	-2	94	-12	0	9	106	13	6	-3	429	470	10			
4	-10	74	-79	7	-4	76	-706	7	-4	101	-110	7	-1	192	164	1	13	49	2	6	3	905	-908	0	10	101	-4	3	-3	203	178	11			
4	-12	93	-94	7	-4	39	-307	6	-4	203	-198	7	-1	191	-152	1	-13	64	70	6	-3	423	386	0	11	155	144	5	4	286	291	6			
4	-14	505	464	9	-10	88	-33	3	-6	521	560	7	-11	340	302	2	1	640	696	4	-8	85	-84	0	10	231	-212	1	-4	594	-386	6			
4	0	86	-56	9	-11	362	-336	3	-7	118	-112	7	-1	90	50	2	-1	777	-836	5	1	157	-152	1	2	161	262	5	-5	254	-226	8			
4	1	524	568	9	-12	73	-73	3	-7	194	-178	4	-7	457	-413	7	-2	75	-20	2	*6	65	-65	0	139	1294	1	-1	473	-586	5				
4	5	78	10	9	-4	42	-42	3	-7	159	-174	8	-7	202	-20	2	-2	59	40	6	8	99	-14	1	2	162	158	5	-5	230	190	6			
4	-2	1	63	-1	10	-1	10	3	-7	110	-110	3	-7	110	-110	3	-7	377	-377	2	-2	52	152	3	-7	201	186	5	-5	207	-186	3			
4	3	1138	1234	2	-4	276	-500	3	-9	303	276	8	-2	108	-24	3	-8	84	-86	6	-7	923	888	1	-3	589	605	6							
4	-5	1508	1546	3	-2	407	-303	3	-10	183	-180	8	-2	113	100	4	-4	74	24	5	8	74	-64	1	-4	85	20	5	-8	105	-30	0			
4	-5	41	10	3	-5	65	-7	3	-10	242	-204	8	-2	102	-22	2	-5	252	-676	6	-8	100	-100	2	-1	640	-630	5	-9	147	-144	1			
4	-5	1188	1276	3	-4	459	-450	3	-11	110	-108	8	-2	104	-98	4	-8	94	46	5	-7	104	-104	1	-1	594	-386	6	-11	101	-100	6			
4	-5	1519	-1558	3	-5	98	-93	3	-12	324	-388	4	-8	141	-134	6	-6	85	40	6	10	63	-54	1	-5	94	-54	1	-6	88	78	5			
4	6	110	50	10	-6	690	644	3	-12	211	-172	8	-5	89	-74	7	-7	116	-1234	5	-11	775	-772	1	-6	137	-120	5	-12	82	-72	0			
4	-6	51	10	3	-7	93	-62	3	-13	344	310	8	-5	113	-76	7	-7	745	6	12	80	56	1	-7	139	119	6	-5	133	-122	1	0	52	28	5
4	-6	319	-268	3	-5	160	-150	3	-14	160	-160	8	-5	99	36	3	-13	125	-125	1	-7	99	-76	0	-2	160	-168	6	-5	161	-150	0			
4	-8	101	-41	10	-10	387	380	4	-1	297	-300	8	-5	58	-74	9	-4	94	-484	7	-1	100	-2	1	-8	104	-104	5	-6	261	-238	1			
4	-8	109	-45	11	-10	65	-32	4	-8	15	-82	8	-7	246	234	8	-2	597	-537	4	-9	98	-24	1	-9	367	-350	5	-2	301	-303	1			
4	-9	259	231	10	-11	68	-14	4	-2	235	-242	8	-10	300	-284	10	-8	108	-32	7	-2	1177	-1282	1	-9	104	-104	6	-2	183	164	1			
4	-10	75	14	11	-11	351	320	4	-1	211	-208	8	-10	202	-188	10	-8	108	-98	5	-7	202	-196	1	-8	269	-266	4	-9	111	-102	6			
4	-11	100	31	2	-8	80	16	4	-3	87	-84	8	-11	336	-310	2	-11	510	-588	7	-3	97	-30	1	-11	139	146	5	-8	185	-178	2			
4	-11	1099	3	-3	87	-92	4	-3	248	-422	8	-11	80	-40	2	-12	60	-10	7	-4	175	-158	1	-9	304	-292	1	-6	404	-392	5				
4	-10	100	-11	4	-8	218	-203	8	-11	110	-122	8	-12	82	-82	2	-12	83	-70	7	-4	2121	-2302	1	-12	70	-70	6	-5	105	-93	5			
4	-14	73	34	11	-11	351	320	4	-1	201	-198	8	-10	198	-184	10	-8	108	-98	5	-7	202	-196	1	-8	269	-266	4	-9	111	-102	6			
4	-14	73	34	11	-11	351	320	4	-1	201	-198	8	-10	198	-184	10	-8	108	-98	5	-7	202	-196	1	-8	269	-266	4	-9	111	-102	6			
4	6	11	31	2	-8	80	16	4	-3	87	-84	8	-11	336	-310	2	-11	510	-588	7	-3	97	-30	1	-11	139	146	5	-8	185	-178	2			
4	-3	101	20	2	-2	61	-52	4	-9	99	-100	9	-4	195	-216	2	-10	170	-203	5	-9	356	-336	1	-11	139	146	5	-8	185	-178	2			
4	6	516	512	3	-3	64	-126	4	-9	158	-142	9	-4	68	-61	3	-4	445	-390	7	-10	88	56	2	-4	173	170	6	-11	94	-96	4			
4	-5	1516	-1556	3	-4	42	-22	2	-8	122	-106	9	-5	163	-144	3	-5	97	-116	6	-11	101	-116	1	-6	204	-196	5	-7	192	-182	3			
4	-6	110	-66	3	-7	201	-198	4	-8	201	-198	8	-9	201	-198	4	-8	201	-198	8	-9	201	-198	4	-8	201	-198	8	-9	201	-198	4			
4	-5	104	-14	6	-6	236	-224	4	-11	68	-60	9	-7	102	-92	3	-6	133	-138	1	-7	134	-138	7	-6	205	-196	5	-7	192	-182	3			
4	6	683	704	7	-3	365	-316	4	-8	256	-244	9	-7	227	-203	2	-6	1579	-1462	8	-9	97	-84	2	-6	103	-97	6	-7	106	-101	4			
4	-6	1036	958	8	-8	218	-210	4	-12	108	-102	9	-10	319	-296	3	-7	99	-81	1	-8	672	-626	7	-6	162	-152	4	-7	111	-108	5			
4	-7	109	66	7	-8	211	-208	4	-13	341	-320	3	-10	194	-181	3	-7	92	-84	1	-8	209	-206	2	-6	162	-152	4	-7	111	-108	5			
4	-8	90	-59	9	-11	105	-26	5	-2	222	-218	9	-11	64	-56	3	-8	58	-58	2	-8	58	-58	2	-8	227	-222	5	-7	214	-211	2			
4	-8	512	474	8	-12	247	-235	2	-3	344	-380	10	-9	87	-82	3	-9	90	-84	8	-8	320	-222	2	-8	142	-142	8	-7	304	-204	5			
4	9	75	-27	13	-13	300	292	5	-1	120	-90	10	-8	183	-163	3	-9	74	-84	7	-8	237	-225	1	-7	214	-212	8	-6	115	-104	5			
4	-2	109	-109	2	-1	62	-52	8	-7	303	-290	5	-10	202	-198	2	-8	103	-98	7	-8	236	-224	1	-7	214	-212	8	-6	115	-104	5			
4	-3	151	-151	7	-7	379	-358	5	-8	578	-620	10	-11	73	-70	1	-7	100	-95	6	-8	218	-212	1	-7	212	-208	5	-7	202	-196	4			
4	-4	108	-9	1	-8	388	-388	5	-8	112	-22	11	-9	161	-150	3	-9	84	-212	240	-9	-1	84	-233	3	-9	100	-110	2	-7	186	-176	3		
4	-5	417	-398	9	-6	499	-498	5	-7	155	-131	3	-8	75	-70	4	-8	82	-19	2	-7	227	-203	2	-8	294	-290	5	-7	207	-196	4			
4	-6	78	-32	1	-8	307	-305	5	-10	225	-222	11	-4	75	-74	2	-8	70	-64	9	-7	105	-102	2	-8	207	-202	5	-7	212	-208	4			
4	-6	*10	-11	30	-31	363	-362	5	-15	170	-170	3	-10	100	-96	4	-10	60	-56	3	-5	360	-326	2	-8	104	-104	3	-8	80	-82	11			
4	7	619	664	11	-11	227	-227	11	-6	119	-130	6	-9	60	-56	3	-8	64	-62	674	-6	4	-65	496	-465	8	-1	834	-824	8	-8	917	-908	5	
4	-7	1109	1152	1	-11	134	-134	5	-13	85	-84	6	-7	93	-84	3	-8	81	-80	360	-36	3	-10	556	-556	8	-1	601	-202	10					
4	-8	710	28	1	-8	208	-210	5	-10	116	-116	8	-11	73	-72	2	-8	29	-29	11	-7	224	-220	2	-8	103	-103	4	-2	32	-22	9			
4	-9	677	584	13	-13	158	-158	6	-11	83	-84	8	-12	61	-60	3	-11	96	-97	3	-10	128	-127	2	-8	350	-380	14	-7	224	-216	1			
4	-10	433	-396	10	-29	251	-264	6	-11	84	-86	7	-11	70	-61	4	-11	158	-164	164	-7</td														

Each O-atom is shared by one tetrahedron and two Mg-polyhedra, whereas each F-atom is the common corner of three Mg-polyhedra. In this way the tetrahedra have each of their vertices common to those of two Mg-polyhedra.

Fig. 1 is a schematic picture of the connections among the eight non-equivalent Mg-atoms by means of the O- and F-atoms. All the oxygens are also coordinated by the P-atoms not inserted in the figure.

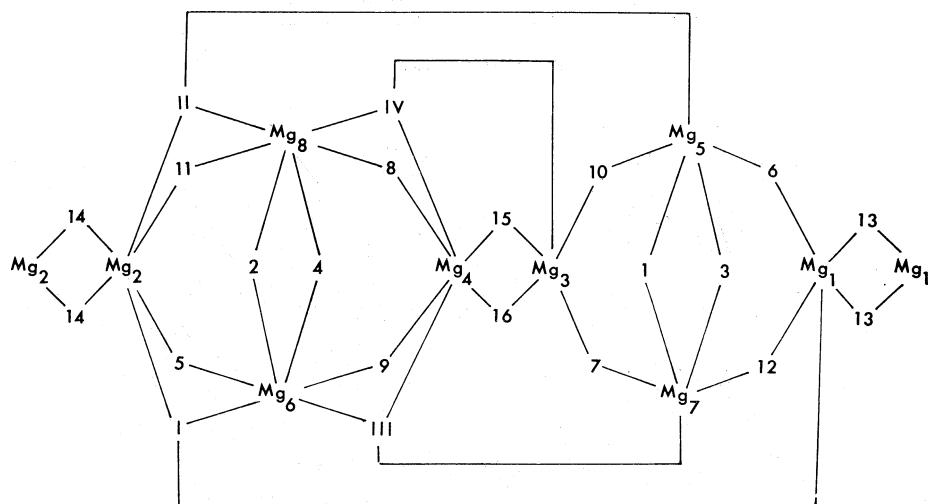


Fig. 1. — Schematic picture of the connections among the Mg-atoms. The Arabic numerals denote the O-atoms, whereas the Roman numerals refer to the F-atoms; this convention holds the following figures.

The following considerations, based on this figure, can be made:

- 1) Each of the octahedra Mg(2), Mg(4), Mg(6), Mg(8) shares three edges with as many octahedra, except Mg(4) which shares one edge with the trigonal bipyramidal Mg(3). Two of the shared edges are formed between oxygen and fluorine and the third between two oxygen atoms.
- 2) Each of the trigonal bipyramids Mg(1), Mg(5), Mg(7) shares one edge with a similar polyhedron (only the trigonal bipyramidal Mg(5) does not show this feature and shares one edge with an octahedron, Mg(4)). Each trigonal bipyramidal shares also two vertices, occupied by O-atoms, with two more trigonal bipyramids, and a vertex, formed by an F-atom, with two octahedra.
- 3) The Mg(1) trigonal bipyramidal as well as the Mg(2) octahedron share an edge with the centrosymmetric equivalent polyhedra.

Because of the fairly large dimensions of the unit cell edges, a drawing of the entire structure with the connections among the atoms in the various directions proved to be unattainable with sufficient clearness. So it was preferred to represent the polyhedra contained into limited slabs of the unit cell, projected on a plane normal either to the *b*-axis (figg. 2 and 3) or to the *c*-axis (figg. 4 and 5). With this representation the three-dimensional picture of the structure is partially lost, but the sharing of the polyhedra in two-dimensions appears very clear.

In fig. 2 the sheet of polyhedra around  $y = 0$  in a range comprised between  $\pm 0.2 b$  is shown. They appear symmetrical with respect to the symmetry centers lying at  $y = 0$ . The evident feature of the structure in this range is given by the running along  $c$  of chains formed by pairs of similar polyhedra, connected by edges (alternatively Mg(1) trigonal bipyramids and Mg(2) octahedra), which share a vertex. Each chain is joined on both sides

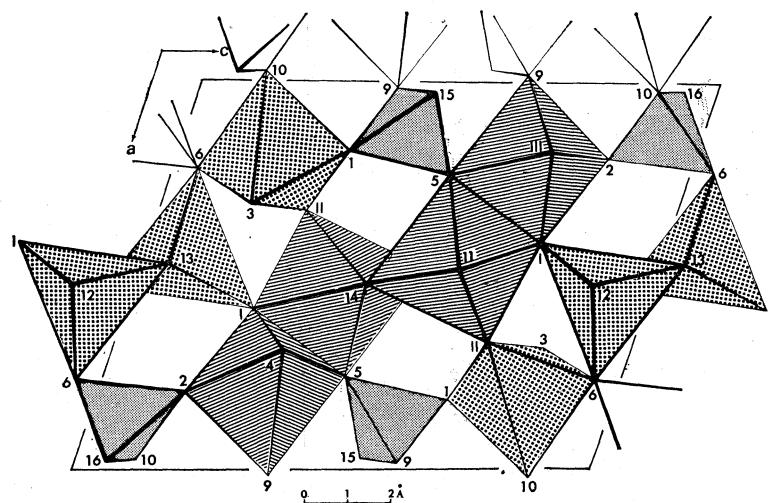


Fig. 2. - Projection on a plane normal to  $b$  of a cell slab in the range  $\pm 0.2 b$  around  $y = 0$ .

to two other chains having the same  $c$ -direction, formed by the following sequence: a Mg(5) trigonal bipyramid, a P(1) tetrahedron, a Mg(6) octahedron and a P(2) tetrahedron. The three chains are connected together by either the O(5)F(1) edge or the O(6) and F(2) vertices shared among different kinds of polyhedra. The connections between the polyhedra of the adjacent cells are given by the O(9) and O(10) vertices.

Fig. 3 shows the sheet of polyhedra around  $y = 1/4$  in a range of  $\pm 0.2 b$ . They are symmetrical with respect to a  $010$  slide plane  $c$  lying at  $y = 1/4$ . The distribution of polyhedra is similar to that of fig. 2. This fact is a consequence of the pseudosymmetry of the lattice, which, as shown above, can be described with a body-centered pseudo-cell having a period  $b/2$ . So, if a translation of  $1/4$  of period along  $[212]$  is given to the plane of polyhedra of fig. 2, the plane of polyhedra of fig. 3 is obtained. However some of the Mg-polyhedra change their coordination, in such a way that those of the central chain are alternatively Mg(4) octahedra and Mg(3) trigonal bipyramids, whereas the two chains from both sides of the preceding chain are not anymore equivalent: the former showing only Mg(8) octahedra, the latter only Mg(7) bipyramids. The connections among different chains in this slab are due

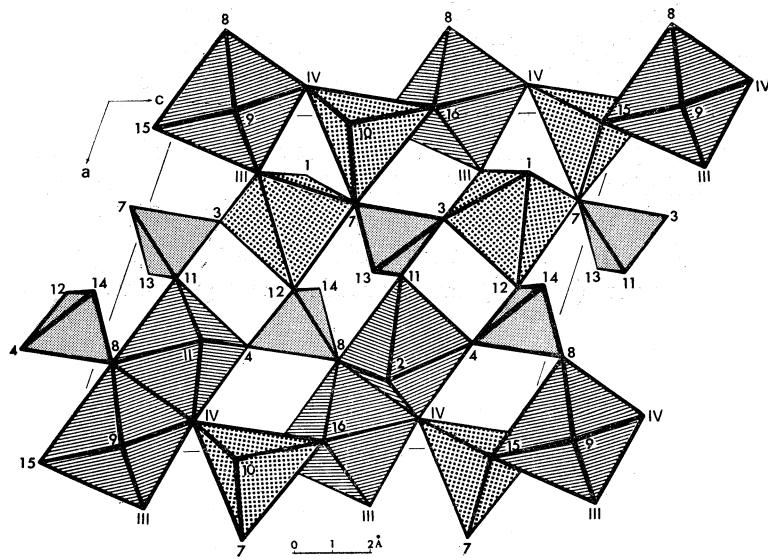


Fig. 3. — Projection on a plane normal to  $b$  of a cell slab in the range  $\pm 0.2 b$  around  $y = 1/4$ .

to vertices shared by various polyhedra, with the exception of the junction due to the O(4)O(8) edge between the Mg(4) and Mg(8) octahedra.

The polyhedra connections in the  $b$ -direction are more evident in fig. 4 ( $z = 0$ , cell slab  $\pm 0.2 c$ ) and fig. 5 ( $z = 1/4$ , cell slab  $\pm 0.2 c$ ). In both figures

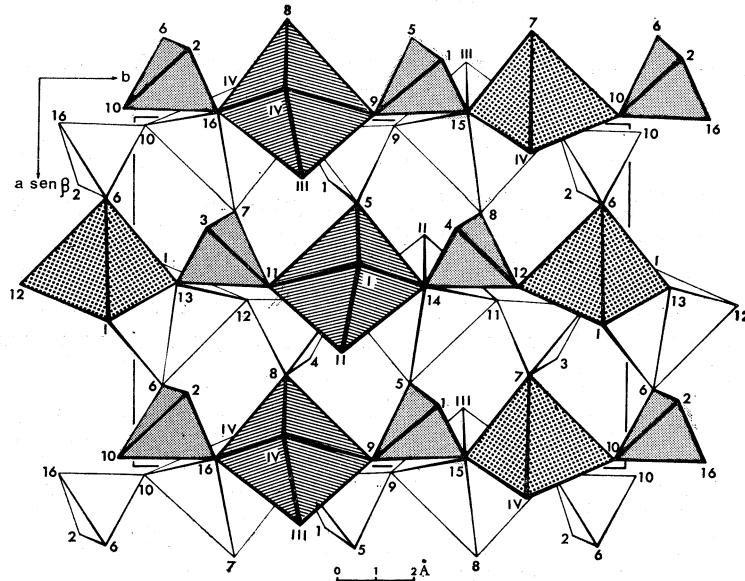


Fig. 4. — Projection on a plane normal to  $c$  of a cell slab in the range  $\pm 0.2 c$  around  $z = 0$ .

the polyhedra form chains along  $b$ , which resemble those of fig. 2; particularly the two chains of fig. 5, equivalent by a screw-diad, are similar in their connections to the central chain along  $c$  of the fig. 2, whereas those of fig. 4 are analogous to the remaining chains along  $c$  of fig. 2.

Figg. 4 and 5 show clearly the pseudosymmetry of the lattice, which allows its description on the basis of a cell with parameters  $a$ ,  $b/2$  and  $c$ . All the atoms, but fluorine, repeat themselves at distances nearly equal to  $b/2$ . It is just the disposition of the fluorine atoms that is responsible for the different coordination (either 5 or 6) around the Mg atoms.

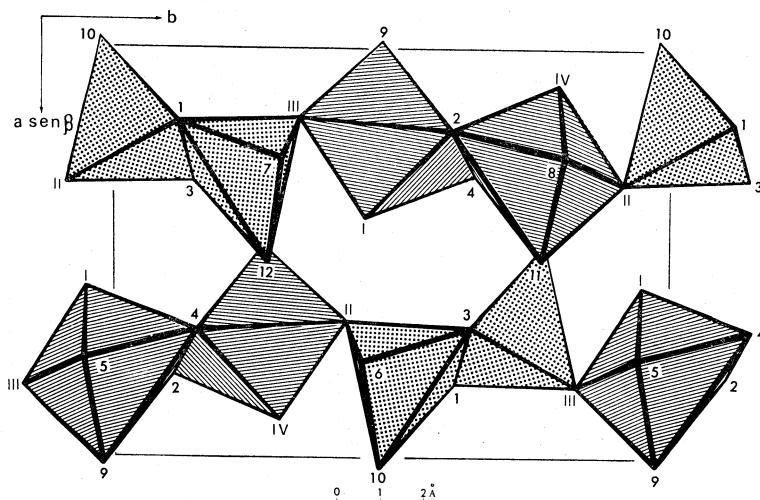


Fig. 5. - Projection on a plane normal to  $c$  of a cell slab in the range  $\pm 0.2c$  around  $z = 1/4$ .

The coordination number five for magnesium is rather unusual, but a lower coordination number for this atom is known (e.g. four in melilite). Tarbuttite (Cocco, Fanfani, Zanazzi, 1966) [5], a mineral with chemical formula  $Zn(OH)PO_4$ , similar to wagnerite but with a different structure, contains Zn atoms with coordination number five, analogous to that found for magnesium in wagnerite.

The bond distances (Table III) range into the limits reported in literature. The distance Mg—F in each trigonal bipyramidal (on the average:  $1.953 \text{ \AA}$ ) is somewhat shorter than the two corresponding ones in each octahedron (on the average:  $2.076 \text{ \AA}$ ); the interaction between the strongly electronegative F-atoms of the same octahedron can account for this feature.

The bond angles (Table III) are practically regular in the P-tetrahedra, but show noteworthy deviations in the octahedra and in the trigonal bipyramids, thus justifying their definition as distorted polyhedra.

TABLE III.

*Bond distances and angles and their standard deviations (in parentheses).*

Mg(1)	F (1)	O (6)	O(13)	O(13)*	O(12)	
	1,953 (5) Å	1,992 (6) Å	2,028 (7) Å	2,034 (10) Å	1,999 (10) Å	
O(12)*	87° 1° (17°)	106° 1° (21°)	89° 48° (21°)	163° 35° (19°)		81° 40° (14°)
O(13)*	88° 22° (15°)	91° 43° (20°)	78° 50° (21°)		166° 47° (20°)	79° 31° (19°)
O(13)	119° 41° (15°)	116° 19° (16°)		100° 56° (16°)	81° 3° (20°)	97° 12° (19°)
O (6)	127° 50° (19°)			85° 16° (20°)	87° 11° (20°)	178° 12° (24°)
				102° 57° (20°)	79° 15° (15°)	98° 6° (15°)
					160° 57° (24°)	160° 15° (19°)
						O (5)
						F (1)
						F (2)
						Mg (2)
Mg(3)	F (4)	O(16)	O (7)	O(10)	O(15)	
	1,954 (5) Å	2,073 (7) Å	2,018 (6) Å	2,004 (10) Å	1,999 (10) Å	
O(15)	89° 49° (17°)	82° 5° (21°)	88° 56° (20°)	168° 4° (19°)		85° 33° (14°)
O(10)	86° 41° (16°)	90° 40° (22°)	102° 37° (21°)		164° 56° (20°)	78° 21° (16°)
O (7)	121° 38° (19°)	111° 51° (16°)		103° 0° (16°)	85° 19° (19°)	96° 6° (16°)
O(16)	125° 41° (16°)			79° 28° (20°)	104° 16° (20°)	162° 24° (24°)
				86° 57° (21°)	94° 29° (19°)	78° 24° (14°)
					174° 26° (23°)	O (3)
						O (15)
						F (3)
						F (4)
						Mg (4)
Mg(5)	F (2)	O(10)	O (3)	O (6)	O (1)	
	1,951 (6) Å	2,055 (6) Å	2,036 (9) Å	2,092 (8) Å	2,038 (8) Å	
O (1)	96° 51° (17°)	101° 35° (18°)	80° 44° (20°)	169° 19° (23°)		79° 30° (16°)
O (6)	86° 55° (16°)	86° 44° (17°)	88° 37° (20°)		163° 25° (25°)	85° 11° (19°)
O (3)	120° 35° (16°)	136° 8° (20°)		120° 26° (20°)	96° 18° (18°)	99° 38° (15°)
O(10)	118° 10° (22°)			75° 56° (20°)	91° 6° (16°)	111° 5° (19°)
				87° 31° (20°)	153° 15° (25°)	74° 23° (18°)
					84° 25° (16°)	163° 39° (17°)
						O (9)
						F (1)
						F (3)
						Mg (6)
Mg(7)	F (3)	O(12)	O (1)	O (7)	O (3)	
	1,952 (6) Å	2,027 (6) Å	2,008 (9) Å	2,096 (8) Å	2,067 (8) Å	
O (3)	85° 28° (17°)	100° 17° (18°)	80° 43° (20°)	167° 33° (22°)		82° 6° (19°)
O (7)	85° 22° (16°)	99° 37° (27°)	86° 54° (20°)		161° 49° (25°)	79° 42° (16°)
O (1)	104° 17° (16°)	132° 37° (22°)		118° 23° (20°)	75° 5° (20°)	80° 46° (15°)
O(12)	116° 39° (22°)			96° 54° (18°)	86° 59° (20°)	116° 2° (19°)
				88° 50° (16°)	163° 32° (18°)	100° 48° (15°)
				73° 50° (18°)	88° 27° (16°)	O (4)
					152° 44° (25°)	O (11)
						F (2)
						F (3)
						Mg (7)
P (1)	O (1)	O (5)	O (9)	O (15)		
	1,547 (7) Å	1,534 (5) Å	1,539 (8) Å	1,539 (8) Å		
O (5)	115° 16° (26°)	109° 37° (23°)	108° 16° (23°)		110° 28° (26°)	109° 41° (20°)
O (9)	107° 17° (26°)	111° 37° (27°)		105° 16° (23°)	109° 4° (25°)	80° 6° (19°)
O (5)	109° 46° (20°)			109° 1° (24°)	112° 39° (28°)	O (10)
						O (16)
						O (10)
						O (6)
						O (2)
						P (2)
P (3)	O (3)	O (7)	O(11)	O(13)		
	1,538 (7) Å	1,535 (5) Å	1,536 (8) Å	1,528 (8) Å		
O (13)	109° 30° (31°)	108° 28° (23°)	109° 7° (23°)		110° 6° (27°)	109° 19° (20°)
O (12)	109° 28° (21°)	109° 45° (27°)		105° 35° (23°)	110° 4° (27°)	109° 17° (26°)
O (7)	110° 31° (20°)			105° 11° (23°)	111° 10° (28°)	111° 18° (28°)
						O (14)
						O (12)
						O (8)
						O (4)
						P (4)
P (4)	O (14)	O (12)	O (8)	O (4)		

The electrostatic equilibrium of the structure is fairly well attained, as shown in Table IV. The greatest difference between the charge of an anion and the sum of the electrostatic valences around it is nearly 4 % for seven O-atoms and lower for the remaining anions.

TABLE IV.  
*Electrostatic balance.*

Coordinated anions	Coordinating cations	Sum of the charges around each anion
O(1), O(3), O(6), O(7), O(10), O(12), O(13) . . . . .	Mg <sup>V</sup> Mg <sup>V</sup> P	$2/5 + 2/5 + 5/4 = 2.050$
O(2), O(4), O(5), O(8), O(9), O(11), O(14) . . . . .	Mg <sup>VI</sup> Mg <sup>VI</sup> P	$1/3 + 1/3 + 5/4 = 1.917$
O(15), O(16) . . . . .	Mg <sup>V</sup> Mg <sup>VI</sup> P	$2/5 + 1/3 + 5/4 = 1.983$
F(1), F(2), F(3), F(4) . . . . .	Mg <sup>V</sup> Mg <sup>VI</sup> Mg <sup>VI</sup>	$2/5 + 1/3 + 1/3 = 1.067$

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