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probably a  ${}^{1}A_{1p}$  as in Fig. 1 in most if not all cases. A study of magnetic properties of various  $B_{2}R_{6}$  at various temperatures would help to decide this.

If 2 BR<sub>3</sub> is more stable than  $B_2R_6$ , this means that the lowest  $B_2R_6$  energy is close to or higher than the energy of 2 BR<sub>3</sub>. In case the difference is not large, as is probably often true, then, if it is feasible to heat the substance sufficiently, a fraction of the molecules should go over into (one or more of the states of)  $B_2R_6$ . Similarly on heating a substance of the type  $B_2R_6$ , a fraction of the molecules should of course go over into BR<sub>3</sub>. Other fractions should also go into some of the low excited states of  $B_2R_6$  appearing in Fig. 1. Since some of these are paramagnetic, the substance should begin to show paramagnetism if

the temperature can be raised sufficiently without decomposition.

Measurements of magnetic susceptibilities of substances of the  $B_2R_6$  and even perhaps some of those of the BR<sub>3</sub> type (e.g., B (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) should give interesting results, especially if temperatures can be raised. Studies leading to determinations of the splitting energies of  $B_2R_6$  into 2 BR<sub>3</sub> would naturally also be of interest. An investigation of the photographic infrared absorption spectrum of  $B_2H_6$ , in order to look for the probably expected  ${}^1A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^1E_u$  bands, is being undertaken at this University.

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# The Structure of Potassium Hexachlorothalliate Dihydrate

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Potassium hexachlorothalliate dihydrate is shown from x-ray data to possess a body centered tetragonal unit of structure with  $a_0=15.841\pm0.020$ A,  $c_0=18.005\pm0.020$ A containing 14 K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O. A structure with nineteen determinable parameters is developed from  $D_{4h}^{\text{tr}}-14/mmm$ , and accounts satisfactorily for observed intensity data. TlCl<sub>6</sub><sup>3-</sup> ions occur as well-defined groups. 24 of the 42 K<sup>+</sup> ions are closely surrounded by 8 Cl<sup>-</sup>, 16 K<sup>+</sup> by 7 Cl<sup>-</sup> and 2 H<sub>2</sub>O, and the remaining 2 K<sup>+</sup> by 6 H<sub>2</sub>O; these K(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>+ groups are situated in regions of definitely negative potential. The structure is very compact, but has

### Introduction

THE coordination and bonding properties of such heavy metal forming elements as thallium and lead, lying in the B subgroups of the periodic system, have as yet been comparatively little studied. With a view toward elucidating the characteristic structural properties of trivalent thallium, we have undertaken x-ray studies of a number of its complex salts. The results of one such investigation, dealing with cesium enneachlorodithalliate, Cs<sub>3</sub>Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub>, have already been reported; we describe in the present paper the structure of potassium hexachlorothalliate dihydrate, K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>. 2H<sub>2</sub>O, and summarize briefly

quite satisfactory interatomic distances throughout. The evidence from this and from a previous structural determination of Cs<sub>3</sub>Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub> shows that thallic thallium tends to form six stable covalent bonds with chlorine with a Tl-Cl separation of about 2.55A, in agreement with the covalent radii of Pauling and Huggins. It is shown also that a compound of empirical formula Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub>· (8/7)H<sub>2</sub>O probably possesses essentially the same type of structure as K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>· 2H<sub>2</sub>O; dimensional relations in the bromothalliate permit the alkali ions of 2(b) to coordinate eight rather than six molecules of water.

our present knowledge of the structural properties of thallic thallium.

Good crystals of  $K_3TlCl_6.2H_2O$ , from one to two mm on an edge, were prepared without difficulty according to the directions of Meyer.<sup>2</sup> In habit and in general appearance the crystals seemed to agree closely with the description of Groth,<sup>3</sup> who lists them as tetragonal bipyramidal, c/a=0.7913. Laue and oscillation photographs were used as a source of x-ray data.

#### DETERMINATION OF THE STRUCTURE

The smallest tetragonal unit of structure is one with  $a_0=15.841\pm0.020$ A,  $c_0=18.005$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hoard and Goldstein, J. Chem. Phys. 3, 199 (1935).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Meyer, Zeits. f. anorg. allgem. Chemie **24**, 321 (1900). <sup>3</sup> Groth, Chemische Krystallographie, Engelmann, Leipzig, **1**, 424 (1908).

 $\pm 0.020$ A,  $c_0/a_0 = 1.137$ , to be compared with  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 0.7913 = 1.119$ . This unit accounts for both the oscillation and the numerous Laue data, and may be confidently accepted as the true one.

All of the x-ray data agree with a body centered lattice; the unit must then contain an even number of molecules. Placing 14 K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>. 2H<sub>2</sub>O within a unit of this size leads to a calculated density of 2.89 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, whereas the reported density4 is 2.859 g/cm3, and our experimentally determined value, using the flotation method, is  $2.90\pm0.10$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>. We conclude, therefore, that the body centered unit contains fourteen, and a primitive unit contains the rather extraordinary number of seven molecules of K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>, 2H<sub>2</sub>O. This conclusion is supported also by x-ray and density data obtained from the apparently isomorphous compound, Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub>. (8/7)H<sub>2</sub>O, which we discuss briefly in the last paragraph of this section.

The symmetry indicated by the x-ray data is that of  $D_4^h$ . All space groups based upon a body centered lattice with special criteria which could give rise to x-ray data of this symmetry are eliminated by the appearance of "forbidden" reflections. 5 We assume the holohedral space group,  $D_{4h}^{17}-I$  4/mmm, in preference to the remaining possibilities which lack centers of symmetry since (1) the face development of the crystals is in agreement with this view, and (2) an experiment designed to test for pyroelectricity performed6 upon a rather large specimen of  $T_1Br_6$ . (8/7) $H_2O$  gave a negative result.

Within the tetragonal cell we must place 14 Tl, 42 K, 84 Cl, and 28 O; evidently we must deal with a many-parameter structure. We find, however, that the x-ray data suffice to fix the positions of thallium, following which the introduction of a few reasonable assumptions suggested by chemical and structural considerations permits of the complete elucidation of a structure which leads to satisfactory agreement between calculated and observed intensities of x-ray reflections.

Without giving the argument in detail, the relatively very strong intensities observed for all

The ratio of the univalent radii,  $r_{T1}+++/r_{C1}$ , is 0.635, indicating a coordination number toward chlorine for thallium of six, or possibly of eight. The symmetry of the positions in question in every case rules out the structurally improbable coordination number of seven. The thallium atoms are placed too far apart to permit of sharing of polyhedron elements, so that a coordination number of eight can occur throughout only if water in addition to chlorine is coordinated. Symmetry requirements make this at least very improbable, and the evidence strongly indicates that TlCl<sub>6</sub>3- octahedra are structural units.

In Cs<sub>3</sub>Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub>, thallium shows a coordination number toward chlorine of six. The existence of the Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub><sup>3-</sup> complex together with the Tl-Cl separations which are found therein seem to show definitely that the Tl-Cl linkage is primarily covalent rather than ionic in character. In K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>. 2H<sub>2</sub>O we assume the existence of regular  $TlCl_6^{3-}$  octahedra with Tl-Cl=2.55A. This is obtained by adding the "octahedral" radius9 of Tl<sup>III</sup> to the "normal" radius of Cl; this value we regard as more reliable than either of the experimentally determined values, 2.54 and 2.66A, obtained from Cs<sub>3</sub>Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub>, because of the shared face in the Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub><sup>3-</sup> complex. The sum of the ionic radii, 2.76A, is 0.21A larger than the covalent Tl-Cl separation which we use here.

The  $TlCl_6^{3-}$  octahedra of 2(a) and 4(c) are required by the symmetry of those positions to assume one of two discrete orientations which differ by a rotation of  $45^{\circ}$  about c. The octahedra of 8(f) may in addition have an arbitrary rotation about the twofold axes which are perpendicular to {110}. These restrictions are sufficient to permit us to select reasonable positions not only

reflections from (001) and (100) with n/4 integral seem to require the following arrangement<sup>7</sup> of thallium atoms: 2 Tl in 2(a), 000; etc., 4 Tl in 4(c),  $0\frac{1}{2}0$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}00$ ; etc., 8 TI in 8(f),  $\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}$ ;  $\frac{1}{4}\frac{3}{4}\frac{1}{4}$ ;  $\frac{3}{4}\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}$ ;  $\frac{331}{444}$ , etc. Except for the unoccupied positions  $00\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\frac{1}{2}$ , the thallium atoms are arranged at the points of a body centered tetragonal lattice with  $a_0' = (15.84/2)A$ ,  $c_0' = (18.005/2)A$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Int. Crit. Tab. 1, 156 (1926). <sup>5</sup> Astbury and Yardley, Tabulated Data for the Examination of the 230 Space Groups by Homogeneous X-Rays, Phil. Trans. 224, 221-57 (1924). <sup>6</sup> See A. J. P. Martin, Min. Mag. 22, 519 (1931).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> R. W. G. Wyckoff, The Analytical Expression of the Results of the Theory of Space Groups, second edition (Carnegie Inst. of Wash., 1930), p. 99.

<sup>8</sup> Linus Pauling, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 49, 765 (1927).

<sup>9</sup> Pauling and Huggins, Zeits. f. Krist. 87, 205 (1934).

for the potassium ions but also for the water molecules, leading ultimately to the complete determination of the structure. The parameter values given are the result of careful consideration of the many interatomic distances involved, and lead to satisfactory agreement between calculated and observed intensities.

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The octahedra with centers in 2(a) have
 4 Cl<sub>1</sub> in 4(e): 00u; etc., with u_1 = 0.142.
 8 Cl<sub>II</sub> in 8(i); u00; etc., with u_{II} = 0.161.
  The octahedra with centers in 4(c) have
 8 Cl<sub>III</sub> in 8(g): 0\frac{1}{2}u; etc., with u_{III} = 0.142.
16 Cl<sub>IV</sub> in 16(l): uv0; etc., with u_{IV} = 0.386, v_{IV} = 0.114.
   The octahedra with centers in 8(f) have
16 Cl<sub>V</sub> in 16(m): u\bar{u}v; etc., with u_V = 0.181, v_V = 0.362.
16 ClvI in 16(m): u\bar{u}v; etc., with u_{VI} = 0.160, v_{VI} = 0.163.
16 Cl<sub>VII</sub> in 16(k): u, u + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}; etc., with u<sub>VII</sub> = 0.364.
   Potassium positions are
 2 K<sub>I</sub> in 2(b): 00\frac{1}{2}; \frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}0.
 8 K<sub>II</sub> in 8(h); xx0; etc., with x_{II} = 0.214.
16 K_{\text{III}} in 16(n): 0xy; etc., with x_{\text{III}} = 0.295, y_{\text{III}} = 0.132.
16 K<sub>IV</sub> in 16(n): 0xy; etc., with x_{IV} = 0.293, y_{IV} = 0.376.
  Oxygen positions are
 4 O<sub>I</sub> in 4(e): 00t; etc., with t_I = 0.347.
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8 O<sub>II</sub> in 8(i):  $s0\frac{1}{2}$ ; etc., with  $s_{II} = 0.173$ .

parameters.

In Table I we present the comparison between calculated and visually estimated intensities for several groups of reflections. The f values employed are those of Pauling and Sherman. No correction is included either for the decrease in intensity arising from the thermal vibrations of the atoms within the lattice or for absorption by the crystal; the latter is large enough so that only reflections with quite substantial structure factors are observed.

16 O<sub>III</sub> in 16(n): 0st; etc., with  $s_{III} = 0.157$ ,  $t_{III} = 0.276$ .

The structure is seen to have nineteen determinable

The agreement between calculated and observed intensities is quite generally satisfactory. For a structure of this complexity the calculated intensities are not much affected by rather substantial variations in the positions of the lighter atoms. We shall show, however, that this atomic arrangement is structurally very satisfactory; this fact together with the intensity data make it highly probable that the suggested structure is the true one.

One point about the intensity comparisons seems worthy of special mention. We notice that reflections from (001) and (100) with n/4 half-

Table I. Comparison of calculated with observed intensities.\*

	Intensity Calcu-		İ	Intensity Calcu-	
(hkl)	Observed	lated	(hkl)	Observed	lated
002	<1	0.35	800	12	19.1
004	6	7.5	10.0.0	< 1	3.9
006	3	7.5	12.0.0	4	7.6
800	45	60.0	14.0.0	0	2.2
0.0.10	0	0.1	16.0.0	2	8.2
0.0.12	6	11.3	18.0.0	0	2.0
0.0.14	< 1	4.4	20.0.0	1	5.8
0.0.16	7	18.0	101	ŧ	0.10
0.0.18	Ó	0.3	202	8	9.7
0.0.20	2	6.7	303	0	0.01
0.0.22	0	2.4	404	<1	0.73
0.0.24	2	8.9	505	0	0.07
0.0.26	0	0.03	606	4	13.0
0.0.28	Õ	4.4	707	Ō	0.42
200	<1	0.21	808	3	10.4
400	`8	12.6	909	ŏ	0.04
600	ă	18.7	10.0.10	1.5	5.0

<sup>\*</sup> Temperature factor not included.

integral, e.g., (006) and (0·0·14), are observed to be weaker relative to reflections with n/4 integral than a comparison of their calculated intensities would indicate. The structure factor contains  $14f_{\rm Tl}$  for n/4 integral, but only  $2f_{\rm Tl}$  for n/4 half-integral; the main contributions to  $S_{(006)}$  and  $S_{(0·0·14)}$  are from chlorine and potassium. The decrease in atomic scattering powers arising from thermal agitation is very large for this structure, and, moreover, evidently should be much more marked for potassium and chlorine than for thallium atoms. Apparent discrepancies

of the type observed are thus to be anticipated.

Crystals of Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub>. (8/7)H<sub>2</sub>O were prepared according to the directions of Pratt.11 Laue and oscillation data show the unit cell to be body centered tetragonal with  $a_0 = 16.95$ ,  $C_0 = 19.45$ A, about, with  $D_{4h}^{17}$  as the probable space group. With 14 Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub>. (8/7)H<sub>2</sub>O within the unit cell, the calculated density is 3.97 g/cm³, to be compared with the experimental value 4.07 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. Upon the basis of quite meager analytical data, Pratt assigns the formula Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub> H<sub>2</sub>O to this compound, requiring the placing of 14 H<sub>2</sub>O within the unit cell. Since his analysis actually indicates a somewhat higher proportion of water, and since, moreover, symmetry conditions do not permit of the placing of 14 H<sub>2</sub>O within the structure which we have developed, we have decided

<sup>10</sup> Pauling and Sherman, Zeits. f. Krist. 81, 1 (1932).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> J. H. Pratt, Am. J. Sci. 149, 397 (1895).

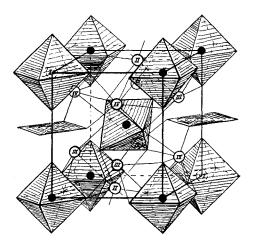


Fig. 1. One-eighth of the tetragonal unit cell f  $K_3TlCl_6 \cdot 2$  H<sub>2</sub>O. Thallium atoms are represented by closed blackened circles at the centers of octahedra whose vertices show the positions of chlorine atoms. Potassium ions are represented by open circles, the two larger octahedra being  $K(H_2O)_6^+$ . Water molecules of 16(n) are represented by the corners of the two squares (shown in perspective). Crystallographically distinct kinds of potassium ions and their coordination properties are indicated, respectively, by the attached labels and by the lines connecting circles with vertices of various polyhedra.

that the unit cell contains  $16~H_2O$  (or perhaps more). This is discussed in detail later.

Using regular  $TlBr_6^{3-}$  octahedra with a Tl-Br separation of 2.70A, the following assignment of parameter values leads to generally satisfactory interatomic distances:

The octahedra with centers in 2(a) have

- 4 Br<sub>I</sub> in 4(e): 00u; etc., with  $u_I = 0.139$ .
- 8 Br<sub>II</sub> in 8(i): u00; etc., with  $u_{II} = 0.159$ .
- The octahedra with centers in 4(c) have
- 8 BrIII in 8(g):  $0\frac{1}{2}u$ ; etc., with  $u_{III} = 0.139$ .
- 16 Br<sub>IV</sub> in 16(*l*): uv0; etc., with  $u_{IV} = 0.387$ ,  $v_{IV} = 0.113$ .

The octahedra with centers in 8(f) have

- 16 Bry in 16(m);  $u\overline{u}v$ ; etc., with  $u_V = 0.181$ ,  $v_V = 0.360$ .
- 16 Br<sub>VI</sub> in 16(m):  $u\overline{u}v$ ; etc., with  $u_{VI} = 0.161$ ,  $v_{VI} = 0.165$ .
- 16 Br<sub>VII</sub> in 16(k): u,  $u + \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; etc., with u<sub>VII</sub> = 0.363.
  - Rubidium positions are
- 2 Rb<sub>I</sub> in 2(b):  $00\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}0$ .
- 8 Rb<sub>II</sub> in 8(h): xx0; etc., with  $x_{II} = 0.214$ .
- 16 Rb<sub>III</sub> in 16(n): 0xy; etc., with  $x_{III} = 0.295$ ,  $y_{III} = 0.132$ .
- 16 Rb<sub>IV</sub> in 16 (n): 0xy; etc., with  $x_{IV} = 0.293$ ,  $y_{IV} = 0.366$ . Oxygen positions are
- 16 O<sub>I</sub> in 16(n): 0st; etc., with  $s_I = 0.122$ ,  $t_I = 0.400$ .

Our intensity data are inadequate to permit of the detailed testing of this structure through a comparison of calculated and observed intensities of x-ray reflections.

#### DISCUSSION OF THE STRUCTURE

The essential nature of the structure can be readily understood by reference to a pseudo unit (Fig. 1) of 1/2 the axial lengths and 1/8 the volume of the true tetragonal cell. Each face of this prism lies in a plane of symmetry; the other seven parts of the true unit may then be visualized without difficulty.

This pseudo unit, containing  $1\frac{3}{4}$  molecules, is comparable with the two molecule body centered tetragonal unit of the ammonium fluoferrate structure. <sup>12</sup>

In the K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>.2 H<sub>2</sub>O, as opposed to the  $(NH_4)_3FeF_6$  structure, two octahedra [2(b)] are missing, two octahedra [2(a)] are rotated through 45° about c, and 8 octahedra are rotated through 37.5° about the twofold axes perpendicular to {110}. The coordination around potassium ions in K3TlCl6.2 H2O is very different from that around the analogous ammonium ions in  $(NH_4)_3FeF_6$ . Whereas in the latter structure  $\frac{2}{3}$ of the NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> ions are closely surrounded by 12 F<sup>-</sup> and the remaining \(\frac{1}{3}\) by only 6 F-, in K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub> . 2H<sub>2</sub>O 24 of the 42 K+ ions are closely surrounded by 8 Cl-, 16 K+ by 7 Cl- and 2 H₂O, and the remaining 2 K+ by 6 H<sub>2</sub>O. The structural relations to their surroundings of 40 of the 42 K<sup>+</sup> ions are entirely satisfactory, and, although less

TABLE II. Interatomic distances in K3TlCl6.2 H2O.

Атом	NEIGHBORS	SEFARATION	Атом	Neighbors	SEPARATION
Kı	2 O <sub>I</sub> , 4 O <sub>II</sub>	2.75A	Kıv	1 O <sub>II</sub>	2.90A
Κī	$8  \mathrm{O_{III}}$	4.73	Kıv	1 Om	2.80
Κī	8 Clv	4.75	Clr	4 Clvr	3.60
Κī	$8 K_{1V}$	5.15	Clr	$4~O_{III}$	3.46
Kii	2 Clrr	3.49	Cltt	4 Clvr	3.94
Kir	2 Cliv	3.16	ClII	2 Cliv	4.00
KII	2 Clv	3.42	Cliii	1 Cliri	3.90
KII	2 Clvr	3.18	Cliii	4 Clvii	3.62
Kiii	1 ClII	3.20	Cliv	2 Clv	4.20
KIII	1 Cliii	3.26	Cliv	2 ClvI	4.80
KIII	2 Clrv	3.31	Cliv	2 ClvII	4.60
KIII	2 Clvt	3.34	Clv	$2 O_{II}$	3.80
Kiii	2 Clvii	3.21	Clv	2 Ottt	3.28
Kıv	1 Cliii	3.29	Clvt	2 OIII	3.25
Kiv	2 Cliv	3.23	Clvii	1 ClvII	3.96
Kiv	2 Clv	3.37	Or	4 O11	3.90
Kiv	2 Clv11	3.31	$O_{\mathbf{I}}$	4 OIII	2.80

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> R. W. G. Wyckoff, *The Structure of Crystals*, second edition (Chemical Catalog Co., New York, 1931), p. 307.

favorably placed, the remaining 2 K<sup>+</sup> are also in regions of negative potential. Each K<sup>+</sup> of 2(b) is surrounded by 6 H<sub>2</sub>O at 2.75A, 8 H<sub>2</sub>O at 4.73A, 8 Cl<sup>-</sup> at 4.75A, 8 K<sup>+</sup> at 5.15A, and 10 Cl<sup>-</sup> at still larger distances.

Our assignment of parameter values necessarily places each Tl at the center of a regular TlCl $_6$  octahedron with Tl-Cl=2.55A, Cl-Cl=3.61A. The closest distance of approach of two thallium atoms is 7.17A. All other interatomic distances which bear directly upon the question of the stability of this structure are given in Table II.

The K-Cl separation varies from 3.16 to 3.49 with an average value of 3.30A, closely that to be expected for a coordination number of eight. Other interatomic distances are in equally good agreement with theory and past experience. Considered as a whole, the most striking feature of the structure is its compactness. Having first adjusted the values of potassium and chlorine parameters so as to make all K-Cl separations satisfactory, it turns out that the potassium ions of 2(b) can coordinate no more than 6  $H_2O$ , and, moreoever, that the 28 H<sub>2</sub>O can be placed in only one way; there is no room in the structure for additional water. The apparently accurate chemical analysis2 is entirely consistent with this finding.

Since dimensional relations within the structure permit the coordination of no more than 6  $\rm H_2O$  by  $\rm K^+$ , we may not conclude that this represents the normal degree of hydration of the potassium ion. In general, and especially in the crystalline state, a higher degree of hydration is to be anticipated.

The assumption of regular  $TlCl_6^{3-}$  octahedra with Tl-Cl=2.55A leads to Cl-Cl=3.61A, just the ionic diameter of  $Cl^-$ . Small departures from regularity in the octahedra, not materially affect-

ing interatomic distances throughout, are not improbable.

If the Tl-Cl separation were from 0.1 to 0.2A larger than that assumed, we should find the problem of adjusting parameter values so as to obtain generally satisfactory interatomic distances definitely embarrassing, and probably impossible. As already pointed out,1 the existence in Cs<sub>3</sub>Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub> of Tl<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>9</sub><sup>3-</sup> double octahedra with shared faces constitutes convincing evidence that the bond type is largely covalent rather than ionic in character. The structures of both Cs<sub>3</sub>Tl<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>9</sub> and K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>.2 H<sub>2</sub>O indicate that thallic thallium tends to form six stable covalent bonds with chlorine. It is probable that the Tl-Cl separation in the TlCl<sub>6</sub>3- group does not vary from the value 2.55A by more than a few hundredths of an Angstrom unit.

Values of the Rb - Br separation in Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub>-(8/7)H<sub>2</sub>O range from 3.40 to 3.70A, the average being 3.54A. The only critical contacts between bromine atoms of different octahedra are 3.90A for Br<sub>I</sub>-Br<sub>VI</sub> and 3.93A for Br<sub>IV</sub>-Br<sub>VII</sub>, to be compared with 3.90A for the ionic diameter. In K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>. 2 H<sub>2</sub>O it is dimensionally impossible for the potassium ions of 2(b) to coordinate more than 6 H2O, but in the bromothalliate each rubidium of 2(b) can coordinate at least 8 H<sub>2</sub>O. We find  $Rb_I - O_I = 2.86A$ ,  $Rb_{IV} - O_I = 2.97A$ ,  $O_I - O_I$ = 2.92 and 3.89A,  $O_I - Br_V = 3.31A$ . With some variations from the parameter values given, it might be possible to add either  $4 H_2O$  in 4(e) or  $8 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$  in 8(h) to give rubidium effectively a coordination number of either ten or twelve, respectively. The latter possibility appears the more probable from a dimensional standpoint.

Except for the degree of hydration of the alkali ions of 2(b), crystals of K<sub>3</sub>TlCl<sub>6</sub>.2 H<sub>2</sub>O and Rb<sub>3</sub>TlBr<sub>6</sub>.(8/7)H<sub>2</sub>O are truly isomorphous.