MS27-1-4 It's been a long time coming - temperature dependent structure solution of Rb[SCN] #MS27-1-4

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Abstract

K[SCN] was the first compound comprising the thiocyanate anion that was crystallographically determined just after the advent of single crystal X-ray diffraction, also introducing its own structure type [1]. The elucidation of the Na and Cs thiocyanates followed in the 1970s, where the Cs compound was found to show a phase transition at high temperature [2-3]. Surprisingly the structure of Li[SCN] was not published until 2014, even though its hydrate had already been commercially available for years [4].

The synthesis of Rb[SCN] had been established as well in the 1970s and its phase transition was discovered in the 1990s [5-6]. However, its low and high temperature structures were only assigned to the K[SCN] structure type and not further investigated.

Rb[SCN] crystallizes in the orthorhombic *Pbcm* space group type at temperatures below 432 K and in the tetragonal *I4/mcm* space group type at higher temperatures [7]. The structural details of the low and high temperature phases and their relations to other alkali-metal thiocyanates will be discussed.

References

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