



Contribution ID: 181

Type: Poster

Pseudosymmetry in Cesium Orthotantalate(V)

Tuesday, 15 March 2022 18:14 (1 minute)

A number of crystal structures of orthometalate A_3MO_4 reported in a cubic symmetry may be erroneously assigned. They belong to the orthorhombic K_3NO_4 structure type (space group $Pnma$). On the new compounds Cs_3TaO_4 and Cs_3NbO_4 we show parameters responsible for the wrong assignment, give an oversight over the known phases and discuss examples for structural phase transitions to a cubic modification.

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Session Classification: Postersession

Track Classification: Main conference: Structural Chemistry & New crystal structures