

Direct Determination of the Crystal Structure of Bis(dichlorophosphate)bis(phosphoryl chloride)

Magnesium: $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_3)_2$

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The crystal structure of $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_3)_2$ has been determined by X-ray crystallographic methods. The space group is $P\bar{1}$ and the dimensions of the unit cell are: $a=11.21 \text{ \AA}$, $b=10.97 \text{ \AA}$, $c=9.75 \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha=116^\circ 44'$, $\beta=83^\circ 51'$, $\gamma=114^\circ 05'$. There are two formula units per unit cell. The structure was determined by the symbolic addition procedure, the geometrical parameters and the anisotropic temperature parameters were refined by the full matrix least squares method. The final R -value is 10 %. The magnesium ion is octahedrally coordinated to six oxygen atoms, four of which belong to dichlorophosphate ions forming bridges between the magnesium ions. The two remaining oxygen atoms in the octahedron belong to two phosphoryl chloride molecules.

This work continues the investigation of reaction products between metal oxides and phosphoryl chloride. These compounds were first prepared by Bassett and Taylor^{1,2} in 1911. The structure of $\text{Mn}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{CH}_3\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5)_2$ has been solved previously.³ The present compound was prepared by the method of Bassett and Taylor who suggested the formulae $\text{MgO}\cdot 2\text{POCl}_3$ or $\text{MgO}\cdot 3\text{POCl}_3$. We find, however, the reaction product to be $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_3)_2$ and the structure is similar to the structure of $\text{Mn}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{CH}_3\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5)_2$. The reaction may be formulated as:



EXPERIMENTAL

Preparation. The compound was prepared according to Refs. 1, 2 except that the mixture of MgO and POCl_3 was heated to 131°C instead of 110°C . The MgO was prepared by heating MgCO_3 to 845°C for 2 h. The crystals of the reaction product are very sensitive to humidity and were dried in a desiccator with KOH and H_2SO_4 . Some of the reaction product was dissolved in water and the solution was analyzed for Cl , HCl , and H_3PO_4 .

None of the calculated values for $\text{MgO}_2\text{POCl}_3$, $\text{MgO}_3\text{POCl}_3$ or $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_3)_2$ fit well with the experimental values. This is probably due to the presence of MgCl_2 and unreacted MgO in the sample.

X-Ray technique. A crystal of dimensions $2.5 \times 0.3 \times 0.3 \text{ mm}^3$ was sealed in a Lindemann glass tube. The unit cell dimensions were determined from an oscillation diagram ($\text{CuK}\alpha$), Weissenberg diagrams of two layers ($\text{CuK}\alpha$), precession diagrams of two layers ($\text{MoK}\alpha$), and Rinsky retigraph diagrams ($\text{MoK}\alpha$) of six layers. The dimensions are: $a=11.21 \text{ \AA}$, $b=10.97 \text{ \AA}$, $c=9.75 \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha=116^\circ 44'$, $\beta=83^\circ 51'$, $\gamma=114^\circ 05'$. The space group must be $P1$ or $P\bar{1}$.

The crystal was now transferred to an Arndt-Phillips linear diffractometer, where the intensities from $hk0$ to $hk12$ were recorded using $\text{MoK}\alpha$ radiation and balanced filters. There were many false reflections due to crystallites on the main crystal. Therefore the background for a peak was estimated as the smallest of the two background measurements at each side of the peak. For this reason and because it was very difficult to align the crystal accurately, the data material is thought to be of mediocre accuracy. Totally 4379 independent reflections were recorded. For 2108 reflections the intensity was less than two times the estimated standard deviation, these reflections were therefore considered insignificant. The data material was reduced and corrected for Lorentz-polarization effects by the GIER algol program G4, written by R. G. Hazell.⁴ No correction was made for absorption or extinction.

STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

The 4379 normalized structure factors:

$$|E(h)| = F(h) / \left(\sum_{j=1}^N (f_j(h))^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

were calculated by the method described by Karle and Karle.⁵ For this calculation the content of the unit cell was supposed to be $2(\text{MgO}_2\text{POCl}_3)_2$, as this would give a reasonable density. Simple statistics were calculated to see if there was a centre of symmetry or not. The results are shown in Table 1

Table 1. Calculated and theoretical statistics of the normalized structure factors.

	$2(\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_3)_2)$	centrosymmetry	noncentrosymmetry
$\langle E ^2 \rangle$	1.0059	1.000	1.000
$\langle E \rangle$	0.8071	0.798	0.886
$\langle E^2 - 1 \rangle$	0.9014	0.968	0.736
% $ E > 1$	34.5	32	37
% $ E > 2$	3.8	5	1.8
% $ E > 3$	0.2	0.3	0.01

together with the theoretical values for a noncentrosymmetric and a centrosymmetric structure with infinitely many equal atoms per unit cell. Later the statistics were recalculated using the unit cell content: $2(\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_3)_2)$. The results did not differ significantly from the first calculated ones. The values in Table 1 indicate centrosymmetry and we tried to solve the structure by symbolic addition⁵ for the space group $P\bar{1}$.

After a series of unsuccessful attempts, symbolic addition was tried for the space group $P1$. It was decided to apply the equation:

$$\phi(h) - (\phi(k) + \phi(h-k)) = n2\pi$$

where $\phi(h)$ is the phase for reflection h and n is an integer.

The probability for this equation being true is to a first approximation increasing monotonically with

$$p = |\mathbf{E}(h) \cdot \mathbf{E}(k) \cdot \mathbf{E}(h-k)|$$

Table 2. The basic set of symbols.

h	k	l	E	Symbol	h	k	l	E	Symbol
-1	1	5	4.02	a	-6	4	5	3.00	l
-4	1	10	3.94	b	0	-4	5	2.90	m
1	-8	9	3.34	c	-6	-1	2	2.85	n
2	-7	6	3.61	d	7	-3	5	2.83	o
-1	2	7	3.40	f	0	1	10	2.78	p
6	-5	2	3.24	g	3	-8	1	2.76	r
-6	2	5	3.20	h	-4	2	6	2.72	s
-3	-7	5	2.99	j	2	-9	4	2.75	t
-12	5	5	3.03	k	5	-2	6	2.73	u

The 2271 significant reflections were now used and the 18 reflections with the greatest E-values were selected and were assigned symbols as shown in Table 2. Using equations of the type:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(h_1) - (\text{sy}(k_1) + \text{sy}(h_1 - k_1)) &= n_1 \cdot 2\pi \\ \phi(h_1) - (\text{sy}(k_2) + \text{sy}(h_1 - k_2)) &= n_2 \cdot 2\pi \end{aligned}$$

where $\text{sy}(k_1)$, $\text{sy}(h_1 - k_1)$, $\text{sy}(k_2)$, $\text{sy}(h_1 - k_2)$ are four of the 18 symbols, the number of unknown symbols could be reduced to 6: a, b, d, g, h, k.

As the reflection with the symbol b appeared seldom in combination with other reflections, it was removed from the basic set. The origin of the unit cell was chosen by setting a, g, and h to 0° , as the indices of these reflections are linearly independent. For the symbols d and k the following relations were found:

$$\begin{aligned} 4k &= n_1 2\pi \\ 2d + 3k &= n_2 2\pi \end{aligned}$$

where n_1 and n_2 are integers. This gives 8 possibilities for d and k. The 8 possibilities can be reduced to 4, as the possibilities two and two correspond to mutually enantiomorphic structures. For each of the 4 possibilities 193

Table 3. The four sets of phases.

Set	k	d	R_E in %
1	0	0	22.85
2	$\pi/2$	$-3\pi/4$	20.34
3	$\pi/2$	$\pi/4$	22.14
4	π	$-\pi/2$	21.39

Table 4. Fractional coordinates and temperature parameters. The temperature factor is
 $T(h) = \exp 2\pi^2(U_{11}h^2a^{*2} + U_{22}k^2b^{*2} + U_{33}l^2c^{*2} + 2U_{12}hka^*b^* + 2U_{13}hla^*c^* + 2U_{23}k lb^*c^*)$.

Atom	x/a	$\sigma \times 10^4$	y/b	$\sigma \times 10^4$	z/c	$\sigma \times 10^4$	U_{11} \AA^2	$\sigma \times 10^3$	U_{22} \AA^2	$\sigma \times 10^3$	U_{33} \AA^2	$\sigma \times 10^3$	U_{12} \AA^2	$\sigma \times 10^3$	U_{13} \AA^2	$\sigma \times 10^3$	U_{23} \AA^2	$\sigma \times 10^3$
Mg	0.0586	4	0.9926	5	0.2322	4	0.031	3	0.030	3	0.027	2	0.014	2	0.002	2	0.017	2
O ₁	0.2155	11	0.1602	13	0.1864	11	0.047	7	0.060	8	0.060	7	0.016	7	0.018	6	0.035	7
O ₂	0.1058	11	0.1431	12	0.4542	10	0.057	8	0.049	7	0.032	5	0.024	7	0.002	5	0.011	5
O ₃	0.0804	10	0.1658	12	0.7229	10	0.050	7	0.039	7	0.045	6	-0.004	6	0.004	5	0.027	6
O ₄	0.2063	12	0.9278	14	0.2566	12	0.067	9	0.072	9	0.063	7	0.047	8	-0.007	6	0.029	7
O ₅	0.0438	10	0.8512	12	0.0064	9	0.043	7	0.048	7	0.029	5	0.023	6	0.009	5	0.020	5
O ₆	0.0693	10	0.9335	12	0.7975	10	0.041	6	0.051	7	0.045	5	0.030	6	0.011	5	0.032	6
P ₁	0.3281	4	0.2839	6	0.1918	5	0.028	3	0.060	3	0.057	3	0.003	2	0.007	2	0.040	2
P ₂	0.2490	5	0.8261	6	0.2679	5	0.152	3	0.066	4	0.040	2	0.036	3	0.014	2	0.027	2
P ₃	0.1521	4	0.2176	4	0.6151	4	0.029	2	0.027	2	0.025	2	0.006	2	0.004	1	0.011	2
P ₄	0.0840	4	0.8418	5	0.8579	4	0.033	2	0.036	2	0.028	2	0.021	2	0.004	1	0.013	2
Cl ₁	0.3540	6	0.4713	6	0.3751	6	0.089	4	0.060	4	0.089	4	-0.003	3	-0.006	3	0.011	3
Cl ₂	0.3288	8	0.3215	8	0.0200	7	0.151	7	0.137	6	0.102	4	0.016	5	0.006	4	0.096	5
Cl ₃	0.4906	6	0.2605	9	0.1964	10	0.040	3	0.153	7	0.194	7	0.038	4	-0.005	4	0.066	6
Cl ₄	0.4385	6	0.8913	10	0.2693	9	0.056	4	0.218	9	0.162	6	0.079	5	0.040	4	0.115	6
Cl ₅	0.1770	8	0.6265	7	0.0975	6	0.190	8	0.073	5	0.076	3	0.065	5	0.012	4	0.009	3
Cl ₆	0.2054	7	0.7998	7	0.4511	6	0.124	5	0.114	5	0.066	3	0.046	4	0.021	3	0.061	4
Cl ₇	0.3366	5	0.2374	8	0.6309	6	0.044	3	0.128	6	0.083	4	0.036	3	-0.006	3	0.035	4
Cl ₈	0.1816	6	0.4312	5	0.6971	6	0.124	3	0.032	3	0.070	3	0.024	3	0.019	3	0.019	2
Cl ₉	0.2735	6	0.3719	7	0.8511	6	0.042	5	0.129	5	0.094	4	0.058	3	0.025	3	0.062	4
Cl ₁₀	0.0023	6	0.3710	6	0.2993	5	0.113	5	0.043	3	0.051	2	0.038	3	0.003	3	0.001	2

Table 5. Continued.

$H_1-7,2$	-3	133	-118	1	568	-599	-3	267	-270	$H_1-4,3$	3	257	-261		
	-2	305	302	2	353	-373	-2	147	-141		4	175	-171		
	-1	985	-918	3	140	164	-5	132	-157		5	244	263		
2	408	379		4	267	293	3	198	-187	-9	125	-98			
4	261	245	0	5	504	-541				-4	432	-411	4	506	525
5	133	126	1	6	186	192				-3	363	-339	7	182	203
6	330	-347	2	7	169	225				-2	624	-582			
7	143	-150	3	8	175	202				0	45	-93	$H_2,3$		
8	143	148	4	9	142	-107				1	254	-236			
9	294	282	5	10	147	140				2	437	-411	-11	180	-210
13	238	238	6	11	223	238				3	131	-138	-7	287	-318
			7	12	146	132				4	75	46	-5	158	-152
			8	13	170	147				5	75	46	-4	210	201
			9	14	147	140				6	139	126	-3	208	-191
			10	15	162	155				7	240	270	-2	333	-315
			11	16	121	112							-1	175	-146
			12	17	108	106							0	289	-298
			13	18	106	106							1	520	-544
			14	19	106	106							2	131	-118
			15	20	106	106							3	131	-118
			16	21	106	106							4	230	-237
			17	22	106	106							5	257	253
			18	23	106	106							6	323	335
			19	24	106	106							7	115	-83
			20	25	106	106									
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			110	115	106	106									
			111	116	106	106									
			112	117	106	106									

Table 5. Continued.

$H_2-7,8$	$H_1,0,8$	-7 105 40	2 96 75	$H_2-5,10$	6 100 117
9 194 -173	-4 124 -112	-6 130 123	3 98 65	-7 123 112	7 109 117
11 123 83	-3 142 -120	-4 221 -225		-5 142 128	
	-2 258 -231	-3 104 114	$H_1,1,9$	-2 88 99	$H_1-7,11$
$H_2-6,8$	-1 108 -96	0 109 128	-7 120 -107	-1 71 43	-2 74 -63
-8 129 -33	0 138 143	1 160 177	-5 211 197	0 121 -154	1 179 -238
-7 153 -166	1 173 171	2 79 83	-3 102 79	3 258 -253	2 42 -89
-3 139 -110	2 203 197	4 68 -75	-2 93 -25	4 195 -142	6 114 94
-2 178 -152	3 144 127	5 114 -85	0 88 76	7 135 143	
0 216 224	6 98 -45	6 105 86	2 132 97		$H_2-6,11$
1 314 329	8 106 -15	7 80 -67	3 157 145		$H_2-4,10$
2 403 431		8 148 -159		-5 82 10	-4 159 143
3 355 365	$H_1,1,8$		$H_2,2,9$	-4 134 -140	-1 167 164
4 130 159	-7 125 101	$H_2-6,9$	-2 89 -94	-3 96 56	1 76 -172
7 99 -46	-5 172 -169	-5 138 -83	-1 125 115	-2 213 217	4 130 151
8 264 -158	-4 179 -177	-1 126 112	0 103 74	1 167 -298	5 135 132
9 151 -153	-3 111 -134	1 237 -267	1 107 -80	2 234 -285	6 102 -65
11 125 -104	-1 83 65	2 93 90		5 132 -133	8 94 132
	0 135 119	3 57 63	$H_2,3,9$		
$H_1-5,8$	1 104 126	4 95 -99	-6 114 -100	$H_2-3,10$	$H_2-5,11$
-5 146 -148	3 87 33	5 120 107	-3 119 90	-7 105 -56	-6 103 -64
-4 96 -77	4 214 186	6 208 183	-2 119 117	-6 54 -37	-4 127 56
-3 204 -165	5 135 133	7 99 -93	-1 95 77	-4 127 115	1 34 111
-2 183 -181		8 205 -189		-3 109 78	2 107 -138
-1 209 -209	$H_2,2,8$	9 125 -98		-1 139 126	3 139 -126
0 68 -78	-5 122 -110		$H_2-12,10$	0 77 80	6 96 -65
1 215 246	-3 110 93	$H_2-5,9$	0 112 -116	1 177 -132	8 142 90
2 256 328	-4 146 132	-9 122 32	2 96 10	5 130 -118	
3 296 305	5 146 137	-5 170 163	4 93 20	6 116 -117	$H_2-4,11$
5 89 -84		-4 221 177	5 98 79		
8 59 -16	$H_2,3,8$	-3 98 -116	8 121 70	$H_2-2,10$	-2 70 -82
9 117 -34	-8 157 -138	-1 139 144		-4 85 125	-1 55 -111
10 201 -186	-7 134 -136	0 117 -142	$H_2-11,10$	-2 67 -101	3 70 -54
11 190 -204	-4 119 94	1 88 -201	-1 111 -126	-1 70 -45	4 104 -121
	-1 152 -150	4 132 120	7 138 154	1 144 136	6 92 93
$H_2-4,8$	0 164 -169	5 201 -194	8 114 107	4 93 -69	$H_2-3,11$
-9 113 -74			9 106 122	5 112 -105	-5 166 -148
-7 111 83	$H_2-4,9$	-6 134 -95		6 163 -122	-4 157 -132
-5 91 -94	-5 263 248	-4 278 276	$H_2-10,10$		-3 76 -54
-4 83 -60	-4 278 276	-1 161 -151	-2 96 -48	$H_2-1,10$	1 67 -56
-2 67 -68	-7 115 -88	2 97 -103	1 108 -106	-7 129 76	2 78 82
-1 133 119	-5 107 91	4 111 87	4 210 -229	-2 95 -51	4 82 -46
0 91 120	-2 138 129	5 168 -158	5 151 -147	-1 162 -150	6 95 70
3 98 94	$H_2-13,9$	6 116 -102	7 99 113	1 167 161	$H_2-2,11$
5 251 264	-7 181 164	7 181 164	9 114 98	3 128 -104	4 92 -75
6 219 210				4 97 -25	-4 111 -109
7 126 71	$H_2-11,9$		$H_2-9,10$	6 97 -25	-3 167 -156
8 134 120	-7 95 -48	$H_2-3,9$	-3 145 -125	$H_2,10$	0 185 -175
10 153 -136	-4 123 99	-4 123 99	-1 202 228	-7 166 128	1 72 -73
11 121 -46	-3 122 103	-3 122 103	0 103 -76	-6 168 155	$H_2-1,11$
$H_2-3,8$	7 102 69	-2 158 -150	1 190 -228	-3 122 88	-1 84 -88
-10 133 -44	9 161 -120	0 254 308	2 82 -63	1 52 19	0 78 -46
-5 82 -52		2 172 -206	6 110 -89		3 136 128
-4 97 -61	$H_2-10,9$	3 126 -129	7 90 -51	$H_2,1,10$	4 162 150
-2 187 182	-3 102 87	4 256 -254		-4 328 29	$H_2-9,12$
-1 261 252	0 184 172	5 248 -243	$H_2-8,10$	-3 50 60	0 86 -54
0 168 -130	1 86 62		-2 112 121	0 239 -155	$H_2-7,12$
1 191 -249	2 226 -239	$H_2-2,9$	0 110 -105	1 176 -182	6 135 113
2 211 -274	4 111 119	-9 111 -89	2 99 -98		$H_2-6,12$
3 146 -162		-7 175 181	4 212 213	$H_2-12,11$	-1 94 91
4 119 117	$H_2-9,9$	-5 237 -245	6 128 -163	1 96 -48	$H_2-5,12$
5 164 175	-2 221 223	-3 222 231			-2 110 101
6 108 59	-1 234 249	-2 221 223	$H_2-7,10$	$H_2-11,11$	0 42 80
	-3 132 126	0 94 114	-4 100 86	1 94 -44	3 82 104
$H_2-2,8$	0 95 77	1 77 77	-3 85 92		4 109 122
-9 135 3	1 102 -59	2 74 86	-2 216 -195	$H_2-10,11$	$H_2-4,12$
-8 130 -121	4 96 -91	3 75 -71	-1 251 -258	-1 142 -74	1 94 83
-7 202 -205	6 253 -266	4 167 -150	2 123 -128		2 91 105
-3 147 158	7 259 -247	6 123 -96		$H_2-8,11$	$H_2-3,12$
-2 63 57			$H_2-6,10$	-3 126 -119	-2 133 -123
0 114 -141	$H_2-8,9$	$H_2-1,9$	-5 93 54	-1 115 -86	1 124 99
1 159 -161	1 437 439	-5 132 -120	-4 180 165		
2 77 -77	2 164 182	-4 140 -116	-3 113 72		
6 87 -31	3 271 -296	-2 250 263	-2 179 -176		
	4 165 -168	-1 149 -153	-1 69 -82		
$H_2-1,8$	5 161 -146	6 138 -138	0 74 -63		
-10 125 97	6 229 -206	7 147 -144	4 190 -177		
-8 86 -142	7 85 -108		5 108 78		
-5 123 115	9 91 1	$H_2,0,9$	6 184 157		
-1 145 167		-7 97 -93	9 102 102		
0 196 198	$H_2-7,9$	-2 87 111			
1 115 143	-8 133 44	1 89 46			
2 100 111					
3 159 166					

phases were determined by a modification of the GIER algol program ML4, written by M. S. Lehmann.⁶ After that phase refinements were performed by the program N16⁷ according to the method described by Karle and Karle.⁵ The results of the phase refinements were 894 phases for each possibility. Table 3 shows the 4 possibilities with corresponding R_E -values (eqn. 5.2 in Karle and Karle).⁵ The second set was selected as the most probable and a fourier synthesis was calculated.⁸ Chlorine atoms were placed at the positions of the 12 highest peaks and the R -values were calculated⁹ to 46 %. By successive fourier synthesis and R calculations it was possible to determine positions for 39 atoms and it appeared eventually that the formula was $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_2)_2$. The R -value was now 26 % and the structure was seen to be centrosymmetric. By full matrix least squares refinement using the program ORFLS in the X-ray-63 system,¹⁰ the R -value was reduced to 10 %. As anisotropic factors were used, the computer (IBM 7090) was too small for the total matrix, so the refinement was made in blocks containing as many atoms as possible. Atomic scattering factors were selected from *International Tables*.¹¹ Table 4 shows the final parameters. The observed and calculated structure factors are shown in Table 5 as printed by the LISTFC program.¹⁰

DISCUSSION

The structure of $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{POCl}_2)_2$ is similar to the structure of $\text{Mn}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{CH}_3\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5)_2$. In both cases the metal atom is octahedrally coordinated by oxygen. Four of the oxygen atoms belong to four PO_2Cl_2 groups which form bridges to two other metal atoms. The remaining two oxygen atoms are in *cis* positions. In the magnesium compound they belong to two phosphoryl chloride groups, in the manganese compound they belong to two ethyle acetate groups. The infinite chains formed by the dichlorophosphate groups run in the direction of the *c*-axis. Fig. 1 shows an MgO octahedron with the attached groups.

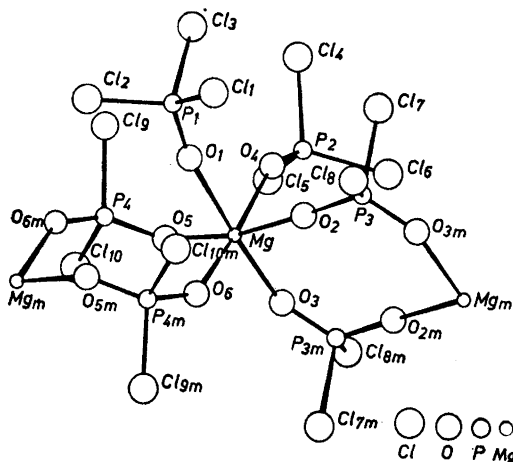


Fig. 1. MgO octahedron with the attached groups.

The similarity between the two solved structures now explains why the magnesium compound when dissolved in organic solvents such as ketones or esters is crystallized as $\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_2\text{Cl}_2)_2(\text{solvent})_2$.^{1,2}

Table 6.

Distances	Å	$\sigma \times 10^3$	Angles	Degrees	$\sigma \times 10$
Mg—O ₁	2.146	13	O ₁ —Mg—O ₂	85.5	4
Mg—O ₂	2.003	9	O ₁ —Mg—O ₃	177.1	7
Mg—O ₃	1.993	12	O ₁ —Mg—O ₄	85.1	6
Mg—O ₄	2.122	18	O ₁ —Mg—O ₅	87.7	4
Mg—O ₅	2.019	8	O ₁ —Mg—O ₆	89.9	6
Mg—O ₆	2.010	16	O ₂ —Mg—O ₃	94.1	5
			O ₂ —Mg—O ₄	87.7	5
			O ₂ —Mg—O ₅	170.4	5
			O ₂ —Mg—O ₆	92.6	5
			O ₃ —Mg—O ₄	92.1	6
			O ₃ —Mg—O ₅	92.4	4
			O ₃ —Mg—O ₆	93.0	6
			O ₄ —Mg—O ₅	85.0	5
			O ₄ —Mg—O ₆	174.9	5
			O ₅ —Mg—O ₆	94.2	5
P ₁ —O ₁	1.410	12	Mg—O ₁ —P ₁	167.0	8
P ₁ —Cl ₁	1.955	7	O ₁ —P ₁ —Cl ₁	114.3	5
P ₁ —Cl ₂	1.895	11	O ₁ —P ₁ —Cl ₂	113.1	6
P ₁ —Cl ₃	1.948	10	O ₁ —P ₁ —Cl ₃	113.0	8
			Cl ₁ —P ₁ —Cl ₂	106.1	5
			Cl ₁ —P ₁ —Cl ₃	103.7	4
			Cl ₂ —P ₁ —Cl ₃	105.7	5
P ₂ —O ₄	1.429	19	Mg—O ₄ —P ₂	152.6	8
P ₂ —Cl ₄	1.944	8	O ₄ —P ₂ —Cl ₄	112.1	7
P ₂ —Cl ₅	1.944	7	O ₄ —P ₂ —Cl ₅	113.7	6
P ₂ —Cl ₆	1.917	8	O ₄ —P ₂ —Cl ₆	114.0	6
			Cl ₄ —P ₂ —Cl ₅	105.4	4
			Cl ₄ —P ₂ —Cl ₆	105.5	5
			Cl ₅ —P ₂ —Cl ₆	105.5	4
P ₃ —O ₂	1.440	10	Mg—O ₂ —P ₃	162.0	11
P ₃ —O _{3m}	1.434	12	O ₂ —P ₃ —O _{3m}	122.0	6
P ₃ —Cl ₇	2.005	8	O ₂ —P ₃ —Cl ₇	108.3	6
P ₃ —Cl ₈	1.995	7	O ₂ —P ₃ —Cl ₈	108.0	7
			O _{3m} —P ₃ —Cl ₇	108.6	7
			O _{3m} —P ₃ —Cl ₈	107.3	5
			Cl ₇ —P ₃ —Cl ₈	100.8	3
P ₄ —O ₅	1.441	10	Mg—O ₅ —P ₄	144.2	7
P ₄ —O _{6m}	1.440	16	O ₅ —P ₄ —O _{6m}	122.3	8
P ₄ —Cl ₉	2.010	7	O ₅ —P ₄ —Cl ₉	108.7	6
P ₄ —Cl ₁₀	1.997	5	O ₅ —P ₄ —Cl ₁₀	108.1	5
			O _{6m} —P ₄ —Cl ₉	107.0	5
			O _{6m} —P ₄ —Cl ₁₀	107.9	4
			Cl ₉ —P ₄ —Cl ₁₀	100.8	3

Distances and angles were calculated by the BONDLA program.¹⁰ The values are shown in Table 6. The estimated standard deviations are of the order 0.01 Å for the distances and 0.5° for the angles. Mean values of the equivalent distances are shown in Table 7. The values were tested at the 5 % significance level. None of the equivalent distances are significantly different.

Table 7. Mean values of equivalent distances.

Number of dist.	Type	Mean dist., Å
4	MgO	2.006
2	MgO	2.134
2	PO in POCl ₃	1.420
4	PO in PO ₂ Cl ₂	1.439
6	PCl in POCl ₃	1.934
4	PCl in PO ₂ Cl ₂	2.002

The two sets of Mg—O distances have a significant difference of 0.13 Å, the P—Cl distances in POCl₃ and PO₂Cl₂ are significantly different by 0.07 Å. The P—O distances in the POCl₃ groups and the PO₂Cl₂ groups are not significantly different.

The dimensions of free POCl₃ as determined from electron diffraction measurements¹² are 1.45 Å for the P—O distance, 1.99 Å for the P—Cl distance, and 103.5° for the Cl—P—Cl angle. The POCl₃ groups in the present structure are thus only slightly distorted. There is no significant difference between the structure of PO₂Cl₂ in the magnesium compound and the manganese compound.

The temperature parameters vary in a way which is consistent with the geometric structure. Magnesium and phosphorus have the smallest temperature factor as these atoms are located at the center of an octahedron and a tetrahedron, respectively. The chlorine atoms and especially those in the POCl₃ groups have the greatest temperature factors. The anisotropic temperature parameters indicate that the main motion of the POCl₃ groups is an oscillation around the P—O bonds, and the main motion of the PO₂Cl₂ group is an oscillation in a plane perpendicular to the O—O direction.

Table 8. The shortest van der Waals contacts, Å.

Cl ₉ —Cl ₃	a	3.404	a: 1-x, -y, -z
Cl ₇ —Cl ₂	b	3.479	b: x, y, 1+z
Cl ₈ —Cl ₅	c	3.513	c: x, 1+y, 1+z
Cl ₃ —Cl ₁₀	c	3.539	d: x, y, z
Cl ₈ —Cl ₁	d	3.610	e: 1-x, 1-y, 1-z
Cl ₇ —Cl ₁	e	3.650	f: -x, -1-y, -1-z
Cl ₁₀ —Cl ₁₀	f	3.667	g: -x, -y, -z
Cl ₈ —Cl ₃	e	3.679	
Cl ₉ —Cl ₄	a	3.693	
Cl ₁₀ —Cl ₁	g	3.695	

The shortest van der Waals contacts are given in Table 8. The packing of the chains is dominated by the Cl—Cl interactions. The shortest distance is 3.404 Å and four of the distances are shorter than the most ordinary van der Waals distance of 3.6 Å.

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