

CRYSTAL CLASSIFICATION AND SYMBOLISM

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ABSTRACT

In Figure 1 crystals are classified according to increasing symmetry into two phyla (axial and axihedral), three divisions (trimetric, dimetric, monometric), six systems, seven systems and subsystems, seven families (monaxial, polyaxial, anastrephaxial, orthaxihedral, monaxihedral, mesaxihedral, and polyaxihedral), fourteen orders (rows), and thirty-two point groups or classes. This would seem to offer a wide range of choice which might reasonably satisfy all or at least most wants outside of those concerned with crystal structure itself. In addition attention is called to three diagonal rows, which however embrace only 20 of the crystal classes. The Mauguin system of symbolism for both space and point groups is briefly recapitulated, as is the Schoenflies method. The former is recommended.

INTRODUCTION

This paper has as its main object the presentation of a classification of crystals in which these solids are so arranged that existing symbolism and nomenclature are more readily comprehended, especially by the beginning student. Apparently nearly every crystallographer (mineralogist, physicist, chemist, metallographer, etc.) who has given much thought to the matter, has had some unique ideas as to the arrangement and designation of crystal classes. The former is of relatively minor significance; the latter is unfortunate, as it tends to cause real confusion.

PRESENT CLASSIFICATION

The chart (Fig. 1) is divided into seven columns on the basis of total symmetry, and into fourteen rows based on the type of symmetry of the (unique) crystal axis. The columns are in two major groupings (**phyla**), depending on whether axes only (**axial**) or both axes and planes (**axihedral**) are present.¹ The rows are in three major groupings (**divisions**), giving the most useful classification of crystals from the optical point of view.

Each column includes three to six crystal classes; this grouping of classes is of morphological value, and so names are given to these **families**, as shown at the top of each column in Fig. 1. The columns are in accord with Schoenflies' symbolism (11, 148-149)² as is indi-

¹ The monoclinic clinohedral class ($C_s=m$) is in the former, since its symmetry can be regarded either as a two-fold inversion axis or as a plane (but it can hardly be considered to be axihedral).

² Numbers in parenthesis refer to titles (and page numbers where appropriate) listed at the conclusion of this article.

cated. The names are similar to those applied by Swartz (12); the significance of each is given in the chart.

Each crystal **system** (or **subsystem**) embraces two rows (**orders**),³ except there is but one for the orthorhombic and there are three in the isometric. Four rows have but one class each, and six have but two; two rows have three classes each, and two have five. The characteristic symmetry marking each row is shown on the left; it is the same for rows 4 and 5, which are separated because of systematic differences. Omitting the first three rows, each of which has but one class, the number of classes in each pair of rows for 2-, 4-, 3-, and 6-fold axes is 5, 7, 5, 7, 5; the last figure is for the three isometric rows.

This results in 89⁴ "boxes" (rectangles), 32 of which represent crystal **classes** or **point groups**. The data given in each of the rectangles are explained at the base of the chart on the left. Excepting the isometric system, five classes may be considered to belong in each family (one for each of a 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, and 6-fold simple or inversion axis), but duplication and non-crystallographic symmetry reduce this number of 35 to 27, as is explained below.

Schoenflies (11) has three non-isometric families: cyclic (C), dihedral (D), and sphenoidal (S). The first with a single (simple) symmetry axis has three subdivisions which include those classes without planes (C_n), those with a single (horizontal) plane (C_n^h), and those with several (vertical) planes (C_n^v). The dihedral family with symmetry one principal n -fold axis and n 2-fold axes normal to it also has three subdivisions: those classes without planes (D_n), those with diagonal planes (D_n^d), and those with both vertical and horizontal planes (D_n^h). Moreover D gives way to T (tetrahedral) or O (octahedral) in the isometric, the only system with more than one axis of greater than 2-fold symmetry⁵ [and D may be shown as

³ To save space, and since combining rows 1 and 2 makes no difference in the sequence of numbering the crystal classes, these are shown as a single row numbered 1-2 in Fig. 1. Class 1 is in row 1 and class 2 is in row 2. Names instead of numbers may be used for the rows as is done for the columns (families); thus row 10 becomes the hexagonal inversion order, row 8 the rhombohedral order, etc.

⁴ Boxes III-10 and IV-10 are combined into a single one for reasons pointed out later. Since boxes IV-1 and V-1 are similarly combined, what is referred to as rows 1 and 2 in Fig. 1 contains but 6 boxes.

⁵ Since only families with multiple symmetry elements (at least three each of at least two types of symmetry) can be represented in the isometric, it is clear why C_n , S_n , and C_n^h are not so represented. Similarly C_n^v is not represented because while it

V (vierer) or Q (quadratic) in the orthorhombic and in the scalenohedral class of the tetragonal system]. The sphenoidal family (S refers to an alternating axis) has two analogous subdivisions (see footnote 14). The writer's families thus agree with Schoenflies' sub-divisions, but his two major groupings (axial and axihedral) contrast with those of Schoenflies.

Monaxial family (column I of Fig. 1) includes those classes with but a single (simple) rotation axis of symmetry and with no other symmetry. Of necessity such axes are polar, and the crystals may be regarded as hemimorphic.⁶ Rotatory polarization as well as pyro- and piezo-electric phenomena are possible in the crystals of this family. Since the only simple axes occurring in crystals are 2-, 3-, 4-, and 6-fold, these four classes and the one with no symmetry at all (which may be regarded as having a simple 1-fold rotation axis) complete this simplest family. The Hermann-Mauguin symbol⁷ (7) for each of these classes is the same as the expression of the total symmetry by this system of notation, the principles of which are explained in the lower right portion of Fig. 1.⁸

Polyaxial family including those classes with several symmetry axes, but lacking planes or center, contains all enantiomorphous⁹

may be considered as polysymmetric, its symmetry is "one-dimensional" (all elements parallel one direction), not "three-dimensional" as required by the isometric. Thus only three families can have isometric representatives, and since there are only three types of "principal axis" (Fig. 1) present in this system, and one of these is an inversion axis, it is clear that at most two isometric classes can occur in any one family, and but one can occur in that polysymmetric family (mesaxihedral) characterized by the presence of an inversion axis.

⁶ Hilton (5, 92) includes only those crystals in class no. 4 ($C_2=2$) of Fig. 1 of the monaxial family as hemimorphic, although the symmetry axis in each of the monaxial classes is polar. If hemimorphic forms are limited to those which may be regarded as but half (one end) of the corresponding holohedral forms, then monaxial classes of the dimetric division are not hemimorphic; Dana's *Textbook of Mineralogy* (1932 ed. by W. E. Ford, pp. 103, 118, 131) states that they are hemimorphic.

⁷ This type of symbol, first proposed by C. Hermann, was greatly simplified and owes its present form to the efforts of Ch. Mauguin.

⁸ W. Soller (*Am. Mineral.*, vol. 19, p. 412, 1934) unfortunately suggests that the Mauguin symbol for the even-numbered inversion axes be used for alternating axes instead; the rule of priority, if no other, prohibits the acceptance of this suggestion.

⁹ Hilton (5, 92) does not list class no. 28 ($T=23$) of Fig. 1 as containing enantiomorphous forms. Tutton (14, 131) lists the eleven classes of the monaxial and polyaxial families as enantiomorphous, as does Jaeger (6, 79), who links this property with optical rotatory power, at least in most cases (pp. 256, 261-262, 268). If screw axes are essential for optical rotatory power, representatives of class 1 and of certain space groups (see Table 3) of all other monaxial and polyaxial classes

forms. Rotatory polarization is also possible in the crystals of this family, as it is among those of the monaxial family, though difficult to observe in crystals of those classes of these families belonging in the trimetric division. Representatives of classes Nos. 17 and 28 may show pyro- and piezo-electric effects. The non-isometric crystals of the polyaxial family are characterized by one n -fold axis with n 2-fold axes normal to it. If $n = 1$, the symmetry is that of the monoclinic sphenoidal class ($C_2 = 2$); thus only four non-isometric classes appear in this family.

The **Hermann-Mauguin symbol** for each of the polyaxial classes (except $D_2 = 222$) is a simplification of the expression for the total symmetry, as is indicated in Fig. 1. Mauguin (7, 545) does not use superscripts as shown in parentheses in certain rectangles of Fig. 1 to indicate the total number or amount of any given kind of symmetry element present. In the dimetric division his symmetry elements are listed in this order: vertical axis, horizontal axis and/or (horizontal or vertical) planes, if any; where there are 2-folds normal to the planes (and therefore centers of symmetry) this is not specifically indicated by Mauguin's slightly abbreviated symbolism which drops the 2; this is also true in the orthorhombic and isometric systems. In the isometric Mauguin lists the symmetry elements in this order: axes parallel cube edge, cube diagonal, and cube-face diagonal; 4-folds normal to planes (class No. 32 = $Oh = m\bar{3}m$) or 2-folds in the third place (class no. 31 = $O = 432$) are not indicated in the abbreviated point-group symbolism. Each isometric point-group has the numeral **3** as the *second* unit of the point-group symbol, whereas **3** is the *first* unit in the symbol of each of the five rhombohedral classes, none of which has a horizontal plane of symmetry.

Anastrephaxial¹⁰ family (sphenoidal of Schoenflies) includes those classes with but a single inversion axis of symmetry (rotary inversion); these classes can also be derived in terms of single alternating axes of symmetry (rotary reflections). In fact an inversion 4-fold gives the same results as an alternating 4-fold; otherwise the correspondence is less obvious, as shown by Table 1.¹¹ The

must lack this property. Screw axes also occur in various space groups of $D_{2d} = \bar{4}2m$ and of all orthorhombic classes except $C_{3h} = \bar{6}$. See F. Bernauer: *Gedrikkte Kristalle*, 1929.

¹⁰ Term derived from the Greek *anastrepho* (turn upside down, invert) and *axon* (axis), with the kind assistance of Professor G. E. Smith.

¹¹ Classes developed from only the even-numbered inversion axes form the

TABLE 1. CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN ALTERNATING AXES AND INVERSION AXES

Alternating Axes (S_n) (rotary reflections)	Inversion Axes (C_n^i) or (nc) or (\bar{n}) (rotary inversions)
S2	$C_i = C_1^i = \bar{1} = i$ (inversion or center)
S=S1	$2c = \bar{2} = m$ (plane)
S6	$C_3^i = \bar{3}$
$C'_4 = S4$	$4c = \bar{4}$
S3	$6c = \bar{6} = 3/m(3\text{-fold with normal plane})$

writer prefers the inversion axes because $\bar{3}$ (3-fold inversion axis) is found in the rhombohedral subsystem, $\bar{6}$ in the hexagonal subsystem, whereas the reverse is true if alternating axes are used, the tendency then being to hide the true symmetry relationships as is shown by the fact that some writers include hexagonal classes in the rhombohedral and vice versa. Moreover, if alternating axes are used, putting what corresponds to the anastrephaxial family in the axial phylum might seem inconsistent.¹² The Herman-Mauguin symbol for each of the anastrephaxial classes is the same as the expression of the total symmetry by this system of notation, as is true for the monaxial family. Pyro- and piezo-electric phenomena are possible in the crystals of class no. 3 ($C_s = m$) of this family. As those other classes in this family in which n is odd have a center of symmetry, their representatives cannot be expected to exhibit such phenomena (6, 101).

Orthaxihedral family, each class of which has but one axis normal to one plane, has but four classes, as where $n = 1$ the symmetry is the same as that of the monoclinic clinohedral class ($C_s = m$), placed by preference in the anastrephaxial family. In the classes of this family in the dimetric division, as in those of other families that have both axes and planes of symmetry, are the di-forms, except disphenoids. Orthaxihedral classes except

groups nc (17, 15) and lack a center of symmetry. Classes derived from only the odd-numbered inversion axes have a center of symmetry, and Rogers (10, 172) prefers to refer to these only as alternating axes ("rotoreflections"). Only the latter (anastrephaxial) classes are given the symbol C_n^i , which may also be used for orthaxihedral classes nos. 5, 13, and 25 of Fig. 1 (17, 15). All these symbols have been conveniently summarized by Davey (3, 218-221).

¹² Of course the "alternating planes" are present, whether the symmetry is regarded as alternating axes or inversion axes. Classification is primarily for purposes of convenience in bringing out certain relationships which one wishes to emphasize. Therefore it is considered permissible to put this family where it is in Fig. 1. Swartz (12) chose to stress alternating axes; therefore used the term *amebuxial*.

class no. 5 ($C_2^h=2/m$), the holohedral of the monoclinic system, are paramorphic, as is also class no. 29 ($Th=m\bar{3}$) of the isometric (5, 92). Orthaxihedral classes in which n is an even number have a center of symmetry.¹³

Monaxihedral family which contains classes with several planes of symmetry meeting in one axis of symmetry, has but four classes, as where $n=1$ there could be but one plane, which leads to the monoclinic clinohedral class ($Cs=m$) of the anastrephaxial family. The axis is polar and the representatives, which may show pyro- and piezo-electric effects, are hemimorphic (cf. monaxial family), as are those of class no. 30 ($Td=\bar{4}3m$) of the mesaxihedral family, according to Hilton (5, 92). Ordinary polar axes are not confined to the monaxial and monaxihedral families, but are also found in classes nos. 17 (quartz), 22 (benitoite), 28 (cobaltite), and 30 (sphalerite) of Fig. 1. Representatives of all these (as well as those of class no. 3= $Cs=m$) may exhibit pyro- and piezo-electric phenomena. The Mauguin symbol (mm) for class no. 7 (C_2^v) of the monaxihedral family does not directly show the 2-fold axis present, since if a crystal has but two perpendicular planes of symmetry, their line of intersection must be a 2-fold axis.

Mesaxihedral family, including those classes with both planes and symmetry axes, but with no plane containing more than one symmetry axis, and all planes lying midway between (Greek *mesos*) symmetry axes, embraces but two non-isometric classes, as is indicated in Fig. 1. Where $n=1$, this family produces class no. 5 ($C_2^h=2/m$), already placed with the orthaxihedral family. Where $n=2$ and 3, this results in classes nos. 10 and 20 of the mesaxihedral family, whose principal axes have symmetries of $\bar{4}$ and $\bar{3}$ respectively, higher than those of the starting symmetry because of the demands of the planes and the other axes. Similarly where $n=4$ and 6, this leads to principal axes of alternating 8- and 12-fold symmetry respectively, axes non-existent in crystals.

The mesaxihedral family thus bears a close relation to the anastrephaxial family; in each class in either family the principal axis is an inversion axis, or may also be regarded as an alternating axis.¹⁴

¹³ It should be pointed out that class no. 21 ($C_3^h=\bar{6}$) may be placed equally well with either the anastrephaxial or orthaxihedral families as is indicated in Fig. 1. Schoenflies preferred it in the latter as shown by his choice of symbol (C_3^h instead of S_3). Mauguin's choice of symbol ($\bar{6}$ in place of $3/m$) indicates the reverse, probably because he wished to emphasize its hexagonal symmetry. It is the only non-Tri-clinic class represented by but a single space group.

¹⁴ Thus Schoenflies gave S_4^u as alternative for D_2^d and S_6^u as alternative for D_3^d ,

In no other classes are inversion axes present as crystal axes, except in class no. 22 (benitoite)¹⁵ of the polyaxihedral family [and also excepting class no. 21 ($C_3^h = \bar{6}$), included in both orthaxihedral and anastrephaxial families of Fig. 1]. The classes of the anastrephaxial and mesaxihedral families having n an odd number contain a center of symmetry. Representatives of those lacking a center of symmetry (excepting the tetragonal classes) may exhibit pyro- and piezo-electric phenomena.

Polyaxihedral family with several planes of symmetry each of which includes at least two axes of symmetry (four in class no. 32 = Oh = m3m) embraces but four non-isometric classes, as where $n=1$, this leads to class no. 7 ($C_2^v = m m$) in the monaxihedral family. The family includes four holohedral classes. As is true of the classes of the orthaxihedral family, all polyaxihedral classes with n an even number have a center of symmetry, as do the two isometric classes of this group. The latter are therefore the only isometric classes having inversion 3-folds. Representatives of class no. 22 ($D_3^h = \bar{6}m$) are the only ones which may exhibit pyro- and piezo-electric phenomena.^{15a}

GENERAL DISCUSSION

It will be noted that twenty of the classes lie on three **diagonal rows** trending northwest-southeast (map parlance) in Fig. 1. These diagonal rows consist of classes numbered 1,¹⁶ blank, 3, 5, 7, 10,

S_n signifying a rotary reflection and the u (Umklappung) referring to rotation about the 2-fold axes.

¹⁵ Class no. 22 ($D_3^h = \bar{6}m$) is here put in the polyaxihedral family because each of its planes *contains* two symmetry axes; i.e., it is *not* mesaxihedral (see footnote 18). Mauguin (7, 545) chose $\bar{6} 2 m$ as its symbol, which is analogous to the symbols of the mesaxihedral classes. Bernal et al (1, 529) have since abbreviated this to $\bar{6} m$. Had the symbol $3/m 2 m$ (or $3/m m$) been chosen, this would have tended to hide the hexagonal nature of the class, but the present symbol serves to mask its true family relations. Bragg (2, 86) puts $\bar{6} m$ with $\bar{4} 2 m$ (no. 10 of Fig. 1) forming the groups $n d$ (17, 15) and with $\bar{4} 3 m$ (no. 30 of Fig. 1), and places $\bar{3} m$ (no. 20 of Fig. 1) in his last column, which thus consists of five holohedral classes (all except monoclinic and triclinic, assuming a holohedral rhombohedral class) forming the groups D_n^i (17, 15) plus $O_i = Oh$.

^{15a} Willi Kleber has recently (*Centr. Min., Geol. u. Pal.* A(9), pp. 241-250, 1934) derived the 32 classes by using the stereographic projection. He puts them in six families: cyclic (5 classes), dihedral (4-none isometric), gyroidal (3 plus $C_3^h = \bar{6}$), spiegel (14 plus $C_3^h = \bar{6}$), tetrahedral (3), and octahedral (2). Cyclic is monaxial; dihedral is polyaxial lacking isometric representatives; gyroidal is anastrephaxial less $C_s = m$; tetrahedral and octahedral embrace the isometric classes; and spiegel includes all the rest.

15-4, 6, 9, 13, 18, 20, 22-11, 17, 19, 21, 25, blank, 30, 32. Each diagonal row is separated from its neighbor by two boxes (going vertically), except the right hand part of the lowest diagonal row is shifted one box lower because of the intermediate nature of class no. 21 ($C_3^h = \bar{6}$). These three diagonal rows sweep across the whole chart from class no. 1 to class no. 32. The major significance of these diagonal rows seems to be that they indicate a proper sequence of class arrangement; that is, as one proceeds downward across the rows (orders), thus in general increasing the symmetry of the "Principal Axis" (Fig. 1), one also goes with equal regularity to the right from one family (column) to the next, thus more or less automatically adding on other (consequential) elements of symmetry.

While rows 3, 4, and 5 can be collapsed into one, as can rows 6 and 7, 8 and 9, and 13 with 12 or 14, the diagonal rows are then destroyed. Suppose the tetragonal classes (rows 6 and 7) are put intermediate between the rhombohedral and hexagonal classes, as has been done by some;¹⁷ then the diagonal row symmetry is almost completely removed. The polyaxial family can be bodily interchanged with the anastrephaxial family without even altering the class numbers; in fact the writer's first charts did this. But then the diagonal symmetry is broken.¹⁸ Although several simple axes (polyaxial family) may seem to some to be more complex

¹⁶ What is shown as the top row in Fig. 1 in reality consists of two rows, as is indicated by the numbering on the right.

¹⁷ The basis for this is presumably the fact that the 3-fold type of axis is regarded as having a lower grade of symmetry than does the 4-fold. This is incorrect, as can be seen by comparing an alternating 4-fold with the simple and inversion 3-folds. By analogy then the inversion 6-fold (row 10) should be separated from the 6-fold (row 11) by the 4-fold (row 7), thus splitting the hexagonal subsystem itself. If rows are arranged in the order of 3, $\bar{4}$, $\bar{3}$, $\bar{6}$, 4, 6, there is one partial diagonal row, which however does not join with either trimetric or monometric classes. If put in the order 3, $\bar{4}$, $\bar{6}$, $\bar{3}$, 4, 6 there are three diagonal rows (two of them partial), two of which are "hanging," but the third and major one (which however is partial, having two blanks) joins class no. 29 ($Th = m\ 3$) of the isometric. Neither of these arrangements compares favorably with that of Fig. 1 from the point of view of diagonal rows. Moreover the very close relationship between hexagonal and rhombohedral subsystems is sufficient to preclude the desirability of separating them by the tetragonal system.

¹⁸ A further note regarding the position in Fig. 1 of class 22 ($= D_3^h = \bar{6}m$) is here justified, as it will be noted that were this class put as straddling the mesaxihedral and polyaxihedral families, it would add one more class (no. 27) to the intermediate diagonal row; moreover both (all) the classes of the hexagonal inversion order would then be of this duplex nature. If the definition of the mesaxihedral family be changed to read "with all planes lying midway between *crystal axes* (which are *not*

than a single inversion axis (anastrephaxial family), this is not true, since the latter involves two kinds of symmetry, the former but one. In reality the anastrephaxial family is intermediate between families I and II and the families of the axihedral phylum; this is indicated by the intermediate position of class no. 21 ($C_3^h = \bar{6}$); by the fact that most morphologists think of class no. 3 ($C_s = m$) as having symmetry of but one plane, no axis;¹⁹ and by consideration of the two kinds of symmetry present in the symmetry unit of each class of the anastrephaxial family. It may also be added that the eleven classes of the monaxial and polyaxial families which are in juxtaposition in Fig. 1 are the ones containing only symmetry elements of the first sort (involving nothing but simple rotations), and so correspond to those derived first by Schoenflies (11, 74).

SPACE LATTICES AND SPACE GROUPS

The advantages of the Hermann-Mauguin over the Schoenflies symbolism are not apparent from Fig. 1 or from any study limited to the point-groups (crystal classes). For that reason there is here added Tables 2 and 3 which show the extension of this symbolism to the 230 space groups. Table 2 summarizes the data regarding the fourteen Bravais space lattices and their five variants. In space group terminology no subscripts indicating the system as shown in the table are necessary, since the system of the lattice in question is apparent from the other symmetry indicated by the Mauguin symbolism.²⁰ There are taken to be but six primitive lattices, as is shown in Table 2, since the hexagonal lattice *Ch*

symmetry axes in class 22)" and if the qualification of "no plane containing more than one symmetry axis" be omitted, then class 22 would properly be regarded as belonging to both families. The position shown in Fig. 1 is however preferred, since the whole table is based on symmetry and not on crystal axes (where the two do not coincide), and it hardly seems wise to make an exception for a single class. Moreover some have made the *a*-axes coincide with the 2-folds in this class (e.g., see 18, 37; 12, 31; and 16, II), although this is unfortunate, since it makes the first order forms hexagonal and the second order forms trigonal, contrary to the order in all other hexagonal classes. For examples of proper orientation see 10, 190; 16, III, VII; and Ford: Dana's *Textbook of Mineralogy*, 1932, p. 119. In addition with class 22 left as it is in Fig. 1 there is the normal number of five non-isometric classes in the polyaxihedral family (allowing for duplication), as is also true for the mesaxihedral family (remembering that two classes are missing from this family because of the non-occurrence in crystals of 8- and 12-fold alternating axes).

¹⁹ Thus it has been called the anaxial class (*Am. Mineral.*, vol. 12, p. 219, 1927).

²⁰ *Pa* (anorthic) is preferred for brevity to *Ptr* (triclinic). While *R* is the standard

(which is also primitive in the ordinary sense of the word) may be regarded as a special case of the (001)-centered orthorhombic (three pinacoids) lattice (*Co*) where the edges $a:b=1:\sqrt{3}$. The rotation of the *a*-axis of this lattice 30° produces the larger variant designated *H*.²¹

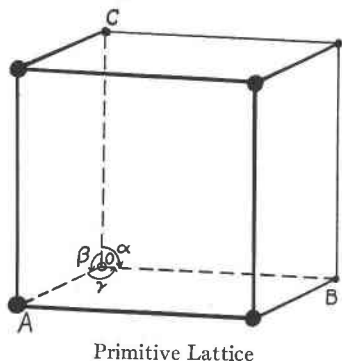


TABLE 2. THE FOURTEEN BRAVAIS SPACE LATTICES

Six primitive lattices (<i>P</i>)		
[Call OA = <i>a</i> , OB = <i>b</i> , OC = <i>c</i>]		
edges	angles	
<i>Pa</i> [<i>Ptr</i>] ... $a \neq b \neq c$...	$\alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma \neq 90^\circ$	} three pinacoids
<i>Pm</i> ... " ...	$\alpha = \gamma = 90^\circ \neq \beta$	
<i>Po</i> ... " ...	$\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$	
<i>Pt</i> ... $a = b \neq c$...	" ...	} 2° tetragonal prism and pinacoid
<i>Pi</i> ... $a = b = c$...	" ...	
<i>R</i> [<i>Pr</i>] ... " ...	$\alpha = \beta = \gamma \neq 90^\circ$...	} hexahedron rhombohedron

Three body-centered lattices (*I*)

I_o corresponding to *P_o*; *I_t* corresponding to *P_t*; and *I_i* corresponding to *P_i*.

Three lattices with a single centered (001) face (*C*) [plus four variants marked*]

Cm (cf. *Pm*); *Co* (cf. *Po* ... variants are **A_o* and **B_o* which are the same except for orientation); **C_t* (cf. *P_t* of which it is a variant); and *Ch* (special case of *Co* where $a:b=1:\sqrt{3}$... variant **H* is similar except rotated 30° , so that $a:b=\sqrt{3}:1$; lattice *Ch* is same as that consisting of a 60° orthorhombic prism with basal pinacoid, three of which units form a hexagonal prism with centered basal pinacoid).

Two lattices with all faces centered (*F*); [plus one variant marked*]

F_o (cf. *P_o*); **F_t* (cf. *P_t* ... variant of *I_t*); and *F_i* (cf. *P_i*).

Notes: *Cm* and *Co* may be regarded as rhombic prisms with basal pinacoid. *F_o* is same as body-centered orthorhombic prism with basal pinacoid; it is also the same as an orthorhombic dipyramid. *I_o* is same as orthorhombic brachy- and macrodomes. *C_t* is same as four units of *P_t*. *I_t* is same as a second order tetragonal dipyramid; rotating it 45° to the first order form (and translating it parallel *c* one-half the unit distance) leads to the variant *F_t*. *F_i* corresponds to the octahedron, or the rhombohedron with $60-120^\circ$ face angles, four of which rhombohedra constitute a dodecahedron. *I_i* corresponds to the rhombohedron with face angle of $109^\circ 28'$.

symbol for the rhombohedral lattice, *Pr* might be preferred by some morphologists since it better indicates the analogy with the other primitive lattices.

²¹ Schiebold (9, 32) uses *Ch* for this, and *Ph* for the lattice designated *Ch* by Mauguin. From the point of view of space group notation it is better to omit *P* from the designation of either hexagonal or rhombohedral lattices.

TRIMETRIC SPACE GROUPS

TRIMETRIC SPACE GROUPS

Mauguin symbol				Mauguin symbol				Mauguin symbol						
Space Group Number	Class No.	Schoenflies Symbol	Normal orientation	Other orientations	Space Group Number	Class No.	Schoenflies Symbol	Normal orientation	Other orientations	Space Group Number	Class No.	Schoenflies Symbol	Normal orientation	Other orientations
1	1-C1	1	P1	—	42	18	Fmn	—	—	75	9-S4	1	P4	C4
2	2-C2	1	P2	A1, B1, C1, F1, I1, ...	43	19	Fdd	—	—	76	10-D2d	2	P42	C4h2
3	3-C3	1	P3	Bm	44	20	Ihm	—	—	77	10-D2d	1	P42c	C4h2
4	—	1	Pc	Pa, Pn, Ba, Bb	45	21	Iba	—	—	78	—	2	P42c	C4h2
5	—	3	Cm	Am, Im, Fm	46	22	Iba	—	—	79	—	4	P42c	C4h2
6	—	4	Cc	A2, Ia, Fd	47	—	Ihm	—	—	80	—	5	P42c	C4h2
7	4-C2	1	P2	B2	48	—	Pmm	—	—	81	—	5	P42c	C4h2
8	—	2	P2	B2	49	2	Pmm	—	—	82	—	6	P42c	C4h2
9	—	3	C2	A2, I2, F2	50	3	Pmm	—	—	83	—	7	P42c	C4h2
10	5-C2h	1	P2/m	B2/m	51	4	Pma	—	—	84	—	8	P42c	C4h2
11	—	2	P2/m	A2/m, I2/m, F2/m	52	6	Pma	—	—	85	—	9	P42c	C4h2
12	—	3	C2/m	B2/m, I2/m, F2/m	53	7	Pma	—	—	86	—	10	P42c	C4h2
13	—	4	P2/c	P2/a, P2/n, B2/a, B2/d	54	8	Pca	—	—	87	—	11	P42c	C4h2
14	—	5	P2/c	P2/a, P2/n, B2/a, B2/d	55	9	Pbam	—	—	88	—	12	P42c	C4h2
15	—	6	C2/c	A2/a, I2/a, F2/d	56	10	Pccn	—	—	89	11-C4	1	P4	C4
16	6-D2	1	P222	—	57	11	Pbcm	—	—	90	—	2	P4	C4
17	—	3	P222	P2,22, P2,22	58	12	Pmm	—	—	91	—	3	P4	C4
18	—	4	P2,22	P2,22, P2,22	59	13	Pmm	—	—	92	—	4	P4	C4
19	—	4	P2,22	—	60	14	Pbcn	—	—	93	—	5	P4	C4
20	—	5	C222	A2,22, B2,22	61	15	Pbca	—	—	94	—	6	P4	C4
21	—	6	C222	A2,22, B2,22	62	16	Pnma	—	—	95	12-D4	1	P42	C4h2
22	—	7	F222	—	63	17	Cmcm	—	—	96	—	2	P42	C4h2
23	—	8	I222	—	64	18	Cmca	—	—	97	—	3	P42	C4h2
24	—	0	I2,2,2	—	65	19	Cmmm	—	—	98	—	4	P42	C4h2
25	7-C2v	1	Pmm	—	66	20	Ccm	—	—	99	—	5	P42	C4h2
26	—	2	Pmc	Pcm	67	21	Cmma	—	—	100	—	6	P42	C4h2
27	—	3	Pcc	Pbm	68	22	Ccca	—	—	101	—	7	P42	C4h2
28	—	4	Pma	Pbc	69	23	Fmmm	—	—	102	—	8	P42	C4h2
29	—	5	Pca	Pcn	70	24	Fddd	—	—	103	—	9	P42	C4h2
30	—	6	Pbc	Pcm	71	25	Ibmm	—	—	104	—	10	P42	C4h2
31	—	7	Pnn	Pmm	72	26	Ibam	—	—	105	13-C4h	1	P4/m	C4/m
32	—	8	Pba	Pbn	73	27	Ibca	—	—	106	—	2	P4/m	C4/m
33	—	8	Pba	—	74	28	Ibma	—	—	107	—	3	P4/m	C4/m
34	—	10	Pnn	—	—	—	—	—	—	108	—	4	P4/m	C4/m
35	—	11	Cmm	Ccm	—	—	—	—	—	109	—	5	P4/m	C4/m
36	—	12	Cmc	Ccm	—	—	—	—	—	110	—	6	P4/m	C4/m
37	—	13	Ccc	Ccm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
38	—	14	Cmm	Bmm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
39	—	15	Cmm	Bma	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
40	—	16	Cmm	Bbm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
41	—	17	Cma	Bba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 3.—THE 230 SPACE GROUPS (first part)

ISOMETRIC SPACE GROUPS

DIMETRIC SPACE GROUPS (concl.)

Space Group Number	Class No.	Schoenflies Symbol	Schoenflies Number	Mauguin symbol		Space Group Number	Class No.	Schoenflies Symbol	Schoenflies Number	Mauguin symbol		Space Group Number	Class Number	Schoenflies Number	Mauguin symbol
				Normal orientation	Other orientation					Normal orientation	Other orientation				
111	14-C4v	F4mm	1	C4mm	18-C3v	154	18-C3v	1	C3m	H31m	195	28-T	1	Fm3m	Fm3m
112		P4bn	2	C4mb		155		2	H3m	C31m	196		2	Fm3m	
113		P4cm	3	C4mc		156		3	C3c	F31c	197		3	I23	
114		P4mm	4	C4mn		157		4	H3c	C31c	198		4	P23	
115		P4nc	5	C4cn		158		5	R3m		199		5	I23	
116		P4cc	6	C4cc		159		6	R3c		200		6	I23	
117		P4nc	7	C4cn		160	19-C3i	1	C3	H3	201	29-Th	1	Fm3	
118		P4bc	8	C4cb		161		2	R3		202		2	Fm3	
119		F4mm	9	F4mm		162	20-D3d	1	H3m	C31m	203		3	Fm3	
120		F4cm	10	F4cm		163		2	H3c	C31c	204		4	IcF3	
121		F4dm	11	F4dm		164		3	C3m	H31m	205		5	IcF3	
122		F4dc	12	F4dc		165		4	C3c	H31c	206		6	Pc3	
123	15-D4h	P4/mmm	1	C4/mmm		166		5	R3m		207		7	IcF3	
124		P4/mcc	2	C4/mcc		167		6	R3c		208	30-Td	1	F43m	
125		P4/abn	3	C4/abn		168	21-C3h	1	C6	H6	209		2	F43m	
126		P4/nnc	4	C4/nnc		169	22-D3h	1	C6m	H62m	210		3	IcF3m	
127		P4/mmb	5	C4/mmb		170		2	C6c	H62c	211		4	IcF3m	
128		P4/mnc	6	C4/mnc		171		3	H6m	C62m	212		5	IcF3c	
129		P4/nmm	7	C4/nmm		172		4	H6c	C62c	213		6	IcF3c	
130		P4/ncc	8	C4/ncc		173	23-C6	1	C6	H6	214		7	IcF3c	
131		P4/mmc	9	C4/mmc		174		2	C6	H6	215		8	F43d	
132		P4/nbc	10	C4/nbc		175		3	C6	H6	216		9	IcF3d	
133		P4/nbc	11	C4/nbc		176		4	C6	H6	217		10	IcF3d	
134		P4/nmb	12	C4/nmb		177		5	C6	H6	218		11	IcF3d	
135		P4/nmb	13	C4/nmb		178		6	C6	H6	219		12	IcF3d	
136		P4/nmm	14	C4/nmm		179	24-D6	1	C62	H62	220		13	IcF3d	
137		P4/nmc	15	C4/nmc		180		2	C62	H62	221	32-Oh	1	Fm3m	
138		P4/nmc	16	C4/nmc		181		3	C62	H62	222		2	Pn3n	
139		P4/nmm	17	C4/nmm		182		4	C62	H62	223		3	Pn3n	
140		F4/mcm	18	F4/mcm		183		5	C62	H62	224		4	Pn3n	
141		F4/amd	19	F4/amd		184		6	C62	H62	225		5	Pn3m	
142		F4/acd	20	F4/acd		185	25-C6h	1	C6/m	H6/m	226		6	Fm3m	
143	16-C3	C3	1	H3		186		2	C6/m	H6/m	227		7	Fm3m	
144		C3i	2	H3i		187	26-C6v	1	C6mm	H6mm	228		8	IcF3d	
145		C3h	3	H3h		188		2	C6m	H6m	229		9	IcF3d	
146		R3	4	H3		189		3	C6c	H6c	230		10	IcF3d	
147	17-D3	H32	1	C312		190		4	C6mc	H6mc					
148		C32	2	C312		191	27-D6h	1	C6/mmm	H6/mmm					
149		H32	3	H312		192		2	C6/mcc	H6/mcc					
150		C312	4	H312		193		3	C6/mcm	H6/mcm					
151		H312	5	H312		194		4	C6/mnc	H6/mnc					
152		C352	6	H352											
153		R32	7	H32											

TABLE 3.—THE 230 SPACE GROUPS (second part)

Table 3 showing the 230 space groups is taken from Bernal et al (1, 525-530), rearranged in sequence to conform to the development of the crystal classes as shown in Fig. 1. In the Mauguin space group symbolism the initial capital letter shows the space lattice according to the terminology of Table 2. The other symbols correspond to the Mauguin point-group symbols as shown in Fig. 1 (lower right) with the addition of screw axes (shown by a numerical subscript to the axis symbol, with different subscript numbers for different types of screw axes) and glide planes. For the latter the letters a , b , c are used if the translation is $\frac{a}{2}$, $\frac{b}{2}$, $\frac{c}{2}$; n is used if the translation is $\frac{a+b}{2}$, $\frac{b+c}{2}$ or $\frac{a+c}{2}$, or from the corner to the center of a face parallel the glide plane; and d where it is $\frac{a+b}{4}$, $\frac{b+c}{4}$, or $\frac{a+c}{4}$, or one-quarter of a face-diagonal. From the Mauguin symbol of any one of the 230 space groups, the corresponding point group (crystal class) can be obtained by dropping the space lattice designation and the subscript numeral indicating a screw axis and substituting m for any of the letters indicating a glide plane.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Scientists should make classifications their slaves, not the reverse. One²² would have the systems as more fundamental than the classes, while others (10, 199 and 12, 383) hold out for the opposite. Much depends on the purposes to which a classification is to be put. The optical crystallographer is satisfied with the three divisions, as is the crystallographer working in many other physical fields. The working mineralogist rarely uses more than systematic splitting as an aid in non-instrumental mineral determination. The pure morphologist may find use for the 32 classes, but this is not universally true. The crystal structure worker needs the 230 space groups. Numerous other types of groupings have been proposed, as examination of the very limited bibliography here appended will prove. Swartz (12, 385-397) has published a very satisfactory brief history of the subject up to 1902, well worthy of perusal by the present-day student.

²² *Am. Mineral.*, vol. 16, pp. 26, 30, 1931.

The 32 classes may be developed using as symmetry operations only rotations, inversions, and the two combined (rotary inversions); or rotations, reflections, and the two combined (rotary reflections) will lead to their derivation.²³ Normally different types of classification will come from the two methods, as is demonstrated by numerous papers. Fig. 1 presents a classification which depends less upon the type of symmetry operation used to develop the classes than it does on the order of increasing inherent symmetry as one proceeds from class to class. While the term "anastrophaxial" implies that inversion axes are stressed, this is hardly true as comparison with Wyckoff (17, 15) will show. The term as well as one set of symbols conforms to those of Mauguin; the Schoenflies symbols including those of the alternating axes (S_n) are also given; no matter which are used the same results are reached in this type of classification.

So far as known the class numbers of Fig. 1 do not agree in all details with those of any other author. History indicates that the numbers here given will not meet with universal approval. The numbering of the space groups up to 230 as is done in Table 3 can have no greater significance than do the class numbers themselves. Unless general agreement can be reached on class number—as has been done on the numbering of space groups in any one class—names or symbols are to be preferred. In any case practically the only advantage of numbers is in ease of printing. The tremendous advantages in all other ways of the Mauguin space group symbolism, which in place of a numeral of no inherent significance puts a simple set of symbols giving the essential symmetry elements of the space group in question, and the extreme ease with which the corresponding point group symbol can be derived from this, warrants the rapid adoption of this system.

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²³ Failure to recognize this accounts for such statements as "the center of symmetry . . . is manifestly secondary" (12, 384-385), "the center of symmetry is a true (i.e., essential?—D.J.F.) element of symmetry" (10, 166), "both rotatory-inversions and rotatory-reflections must be used as symmetry operations" (10, 201), and "only two-, four-, and six-fold rotary reflection axes are possible" (Sol'er, *op. cit.*, p. 418).

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SYMMETRY SYSTEM	Principal Axis	AXIAL = SYMMETRY AXES ONLY			AXIHEDRAL = BOTH AXES AND PLANES				Row number	SYMMETRY SYSTEM
		MONAXIAL One (polar) axis only Hemimorphic Cyclic = C _n	POLYAXIAL More than one axis—no planes Enantiomorphic Dihedral = D _n	ANASTREPH- AXIAL One inversion axis only Sphenoidal = S _n	ORTHAXI- HEDRAL One plane (horizontal) perpendicular to one axis. C _n ^h	MONAXI- HEDRAL One (polar) axis only, with parallel (vertical) planes. Hemimorphic C _n ^v	MESAXI- HEDRAL Planes (none horizontal) between (diagonal to) axes. D _n ^d	POLYAXI- HEDRAL Planes (one horizontal) coinciding with symmetry axes. D _n ^h		
TRIMETRIC DIVISION										
TRICLINIC	1 I	1(XXXII) C ₁ Asymmetric 1	(Cf. 4)	2(XXXI) C _i (=S ₂) Pinacoidal I(=i)	(Cf. 3)	(Cf. 5)	(Cf. 7)	1 2	TRICLINIC	
MONOCLINIC	2			3(XXX) C _s (=S) ^{**} Clinohedral m(=2)				3	MONOCLINIC	
	2	4(XXIX) C ₂ Sphenoidal 2			5(XXVIII) C ₂ ^h * Prismatic 2/m (i)			4		
ORTHO- RHOMBIC	2		6(XXVII) D ₂ (=V) Orthorhombic Disphenoidal 222			7(XXVI) C ₂ ^v Orthorhombic Pyramidal m m (2 m m)	8(XXV) D ₂ ^h (=V _h) Orthorhombic Dipyramidal mmm (2/m2/m2/m i)	5	ORTHO- RHOMBIC	
DIMETRIC DIVISION										
TETRAG- ONAL	4			9(XXIV) S ₄ (=C ₄) Tetragonal Disphenoidal 4			10(XXIII) D ₂ ^d (=V _d) Ditetragonal Scalenohehdral 4 2 m(4 2 ² m ²)	6	TETRAG- ONAL	
	4	11(XXII) C ₄ Tetragonal Pyramidal 4	12(XXI) D ₄ Tetragonal Trapezohedral 4 2(4 2 ² 2 ²)		13(XX) C ₄ ^h Tetragonal Dipyramidal 4/m (i)	14(XIX) C ₄ ^v Ditetragonal Pyramidal 4 m(4 m ² m ²)	15(XVIII) D ₄ ^h Ditetragonal Dipyramidal 4/mmm(4/m2/m ² /m ² i)	7		
HEXAGONAL	Rhombohedral Subsystem	3	16(XVII) C ₃ Trigonal Pyramidal 3	17(XVI) D ₃ Trigonal Trapezohedral 3 2(3 2 ²)		18(XV) C ₃ ^v Ditrigonal Pyramidal 3 m(3 m ²)		8	Rhombohedral Subsystem	
		3			19(XIV) C ₃ ⁱ (=S ₆) Trigonal Rhombohedral 3 (i)		20(XIII) D ₃ ^d Ditrigonal Scalenohehdral 3 m(3 2/m ² i)	9		
	Hexagonal Subsystem	6			21(XII) C ₃ ^h (=S ₃) Trigonal Dipyramidal 6 (=3/m)			22(XI) D ₃ ^h Ditrigonal Dipyramidal 6 m(3/m[=6]2 ² m ²)	10	Hexagonal Subsystem
		6	23(X) C ₆ Hexagonal Pyramidal 6	24(IX) D ₆ Hexagonal Trapezohedral 6 2(6 2 ² 2 ²)		25(VIII) C ₆ ^h Hexagonal Dipyramidal 6/m (i)	26(VII) C ₆ ^v Dihexagonal Pyramidal 6 m m(6 m ² m ²)	27(VI) D ₆ ^h Dihexagonal Dipyramidal 6/mmm(6/m2/m ² /m ² i)	11	
MONOMETRIC DIVISION										
ISOMETRIC	2 ³		2 ³ (V) T Gyrotris- tetrahedral 2 3(2 ² 3 ⁴)				29(IV) Th Diploidal m 3(2/m ² 3 ⁴ i)	12	ISOMETRIC	
	4 ³					30(III) T _d Hextetrahedral 4 3 m(4 ² 3 ⁴ m ⁶)	13			
	4 ³		31(II) O Gyricosi- tetrahedral 4 3(4 ³ 3 ⁴ 2 ⁶)				32(I) O _h Hexoctahedral m 3 m(4/m ² 3 ² 2/m ⁶ i)	14		
Column Number	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	Column number		
EXPLANATION: Significance of position is indicated in the rectangle to the left. The class number in the upper left is shown in Arabic numerals going from minimum to maximum symmetry, and in Roman numerals for the reverse. The Schoenflies symbol is used in the upper right. With few exceptions the class name is according to Groth (but using Greek prefixes). Symbol and total symmetry are shown below with Hermann-Mauguin symbols; these are explained in the other column	number class name symbol(symmetry)									
REMARKS: Crystals of classes in the monaxial and monaxihedral families, as well as those of classes 3, 17, 22, 23, and 30, may show pyro- and piezo-electric phenomena. Rotatory polarization may occur in monaxial and polyaxial crystals.										
Hermann-Mauguin symbols	{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 6,—(ordinary) symmetry axes. I(=i), 2(=m), 3, 4, 6(=3/m),—inversion axes. m(=2)—plane of symmetry; i(=I)—center of symmetry (inversion). 2/m, 3/m(=6), 4/m, 6/m,—axes with normal plane of symmetry. Superscripts indicate more than one of a given element of symmetry.									
FOOTNOTES:	* In the monoclinic morphologists generally make the symmetry axis=b; thus the Schoenflies symbol for Class 5 may not seem appropriate;** nor would the symbol C1h which has been used for Class 3. In Classes 6, 8, and 10, Q (quadratic) may replace V (vierer).									

Fig. 1.—CRYSTAL CLASSES (point groups) arranged by D. Jerome Fisher.