

# Chemical preparations, crystal data for monophosphates and condensed phosphates associated to strontium and IR studies of their anions

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## ABSTRACT

Chemical preparations and main crystallographic data are reported for the Monophosphates and the condensed phosphates associated to strontium. These compounds constituting an important part of phosphate chemistry have been subject to many studies and applications in many fields of research on materials and industry. The subject of this paper is to collect unit-cell parameters of these compounds to build a database of the different formulas which are known until now, to have an idea about their preparations and also about characterization by infrared vibration spectrometry for anions,  $\text{PO}_3^-$  in  $\alpha\text{-Sr}(\text{PO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  in  $\gamma\text{-SrHPO}_4$ ,  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_7^{4-}$  in  $\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$ ,  $\text{P}_3\text{O}_9^{3-}$  in  $\text{SrKP}_3\text{O}_9 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{P}_4\text{O}_{12}^{4-}$  in  $\text{SrK}_2\text{P}_4\text{O}_{12}$ ,  $\text{P}_6\text{O}_{18}^{6-}$  in  $\text{Sr}_2(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{P}_6\text{O}_{18} \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{P}_3\text{O}_{10}^{5-}$  in  $\text{Sr}_3\text{P}_3\text{O}_{10}\text{Cl}$ .

**Key words :** Chemical preparation, monophosphates, strontium, infrared vibration spectrometry-ray diffraction.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Before we start reviewing and discussing the chemical preparation and crystallographic data of phosphate we first try to explain what we commonly call a phosphate. A general and rather abstract definition can be given by saying that phosphates are salts of both the monophosphoric acid  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  and its various condensed or polymeric forms. The corresponding anions have varied geometries, but one common feature: they are all built up by pentavalent phosphorus atoms surrounded by more or less distorted tetrahedra made of four oxygen atoms. Monophosphate known as orthophosphates is the only phosphates known to be naturally occurring because of the hydrolysis of condensed phosphates. The condensed phosphoric anion in which P-O-P bonds exist is a condensed phosphoric anion. The condensed phosphates and monophosphates associated to strontium, the subject of this paper, contained in the

important condensed phosphates and monophosphates that have been the subject of research and apply in the industry. The present work assembled the majority of the phases prepared for condensed phosphates and monophosphates associated to strontium to get ideas about their preparation, their crystallographic data, and their vibrational characteristics [1].

## 2. Monophosphates $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$

### 2.1 Synthesis protocols

#### $\alpha\text{-SrHPO}_4$

It is easily obtained by dissolving 2.1 g of  $\text{Sr}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  and 1.4 g of  $\text{NH}_4\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$  in 200 cm<sup>3</sup> of water. After three days, after evaporation at room temperature, crystals appear of  $\text{SrHPO}_4$ , polyhedral and colourless form, stable at room temperature and are very soluble in water [2].

#### $\beta\text{-SrHPO}_4$

The  $\beta\text{-SrHPO}_4$  was prepared via a controlled hydrothermal method.  $\text{Sr}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$  were dissolved in 50 ml deionized water with a molar ratio of 0.03:0.0001:0.02 under mechanical stirring for 2h. Then the mixed solution was transferred into a 100 ml Teflon bottle. The bottle was held in a stainless steel autoclave and kept at 180°C for 12h. Finally, the obtained white  $\text{SrHPO}_4$  powders were filtered, washed for three times with deionized water and twice with ethanol and then dried in a vacuum oven at 60°C for 12h [3].

#### $\gamma\text{-SrHPO}_4$

They were prepared from a mixture comprising  $\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$  (599.5%),  $\text{SrCO}_3$  (598%),  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (85%) and distilled water in molar ratio  $\text{Li/Sr/P/H}_2\text{O}=1/1/3/190$ . The reactants were introduced in a Teflon-lined Parr hydrothermal bomb, with a fill factor of approximately 50%. The bomb was heated at 180°C under auto-geneous pressure for 6 days, and then slowly cooled to room temperature over 24 hours. The bomb contents were recovered by vacuum filtration and drying in

air. Repeated attempts to prepare  $\gamma$ -SrHPO<sub>4</sub> hydrothermally from SrCO<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>O (Sr/P/H<sub>2</sub>O=1/1.9/60, T=140°C, 2 days) allowed the authors to obtain a white microcrystalline powder for this phase [4].

### **Sr<sub>1.9</sub>Cu<sub>4.1</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Sr<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Sr<sub>2</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub>**

Samples in the Sr<sub>3-x</sub>Cu<sub>x</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> system were synthesized from stoichiometric mixtures of CuO (99.9%), SrCO<sub>3</sub>(99.999%), and NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>(99.999%) by the solid state method. Stoichiometric mixtures were heated very slow up to 600°C and then annealed at 900°C (120 h, ground every 30 h) under air in alumina crucibles. The samples with  $x=0, 0.289, 0.4, 0.414, 0.429, 1, 1.05, 1.25, 1.5, 1.75, 2, 2.05, 2.075, 2.125, 2.5,$  and 3 were obtained. After annealing, the samples were quenched at room temperature. For synthesis of solid solutions Sr<sub>9.1-x</sub>Ca<sub>x</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub>(0≤ $x$ ≤9.1), Sr<sub>2-x</sub>Ba<sub>x</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(0≤ $x$ ≤2) and Sr<sub>3-x</sub>Ba<sub>x</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(0≤ $x$ ≤1.5), we used also CaCO<sub>3</sub> (99.0%) and BaCO<sub>3</sub>(99.0%). Solid solutions Sr<sub>9.1-x</sub>Ca<sub>x</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> (0≤ $x$ ≤9.1) were synthesized at 900-920°C followed by quenching in air. Solid solutions Sr<sub>2-x</sub>Ba<sub>x</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0≤ $x$ ≤2) and Sr<sub>3-x</sub>Ba<sub>x</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0≤ $x$ ≤1.5) were synthesized at 840°C followed by quenching in air.

Make some remarks about the synthesis of the three new compounds in the Sr<sub>3-x</sub>Cu<sub>x</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> system with  $x=0.4, 1,$  and 2.05. The single-phased samples Sr<sub>1.9</sub>Cu<sub>4.1</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>( $x=2.05$ ) and Sr<sub>2</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> ( $x=1$ ) could be obtained at 900°C. Annealing of the sample Sr<sub>1.9</sub>Cu<sub>4.1</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> at 950°C resulted in the appearance of a liquid phase. This specimen contained I-Sr<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and traces of unidentified phases. A long treatment of Sr<sub>1.9</sub>Cu<sub>4.1</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> at 950°C resulted in the growth of I-Sr<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> single crystals.

Annealing of the blue specimen Sr<sub>2</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> at 1020°C resulted in a green powder, which consisted of an unidentified phase (phase I with six strongest lines:  $d=2.657, 3.121, 2.800, 3.098, 2.784,$  and 2.702 Å) and traces of Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> and I-Sr<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>. Traces of phase I, Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub>, and I-Sr<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> appeared when Sr<sub>2</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was annealed at 920°C.

Our attempts to synthesize at 900°C the compound Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> ( $x=0.4$ ) from SrCO<sub>3</sub> (99.999%) were not successful, even when platinum crucibles and quenching in liquid nitrogen were used.

The specimens in these cases were blue and consisted of three phases, Sr<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> and Sr<sub>2</sub>Cu(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, in comparable amounts. When the specimen Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> was cooled in a furnace, it was light-gray and also consisted of the three phases. The compound Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> (with traces of Sr<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) could be obtained by quenching from 1000°C into air in a platinum crucible. The single-phased sample Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub>( $x=0.4$ ) in the amount of 0.1 g was obtained in a corundum crucible by quenching from 900°C into air when we used SrCO<sub>3</sub> (98.0%), CuO (99.9%), and NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>(99.999%) in synthesis. It seems that impurities can stabilize the Sr<sub>9.1</sub>Cu<sub>1.4</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>7</sub> phase [5].

### **SrCu<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>**

SrCu<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was synthesized by the solid-state method from stoichiometric mixtures of Sr<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> at 1153K in a Pt crucible for 200 h with five intermediate grindings. The green-blue product was cooled in a furnace. SrCu<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> contained Sr<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (1.2%) impurities. The mass fraction of the impurity in the sample was calculated from the scale factors refined in the Rietveld analysis described below. Single-phased Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Sr<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> were prepared from mixtures of CuO (99.99%), NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (99.999%), and SrCO<sub>3</sub>(99.999%) by the solid-state method. The mixtures were heated under air while the temperature was very slowly increased from room temperature (RT) to 873 K; then, they were reground and allowed to react at 1153K for Cu<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and 1273 K for Sr<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> for 120 h with four intermediate grindings [6].

### **KSrPO<sub>4</sub>**

KSrPO<sub>4</sub>:Dy<sup>3+</sup> ( $x = 0.03, 0.04, 0.05, 0.06, 0.07,$  and 0.08) phosphors were synthesized using a solid-state reaction method. Highly pure K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, SrCO<sub>3</sub>, (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>(99.9%), and Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (99.99%) obtained from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent, Co. Ltd., Shanghai China, were used as the starting materials. Stoichiometric amounts of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, SrCO<sub>3</sub>,(NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> (99.9%), and Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (99.99%) were mixed thoroughly in alcohol by ball milling using an agate mortar. Additional 5% K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was used to compensate the losses due to evaporation during the synthesis. They were sintered at 1150°C for 6 h in air, and then, the samples were ground into powder for characterization [7].

### **KSrFe<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>**

Single crystals of KSrFe<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub> were grown in a flux of potassium dimolybdate K<sub>2</sub>Mo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> with molar ratio of product: flux =2:1 starting from 2.043 g of KNO<sub>3</sub>, 1.506 g of SrCO<sub>3</sub>, 8.203g of Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·9H<sub>2</sub>O, 4.002 g of (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> and 1.454 g of MoO<sub>3</sub>. These reactants were mixed in nitric acid and the resulting solution was evaporated to dryness by heating at 353K. The obtained dry residue was ground in an agate mortar and then heated for 24 h at 673K in order to remove the decomposition products: NH<sub>3</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>.

The process was then followed by a further heating for 12h at 873 K with intermediate grinding. After being reground, the product was melted for 1h at 1373 K, and then slowly cooled at a rate of 10 K.h<sup>-1</sup> to 673K, then at a rate of 50K.h<sup>-1</sup> to room temperature. The crystals obtained by washing the final product with warm water, in order to dissolve the flux, are essentially composed by yellowish and irregularly shaped crystals. Their qualitative microprobe analysis indicated the exclusive presence of K, Sr, Fe and P in an atomic ratio approximating 1:1:2:3, in accordance with the KSrFe<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub> composition. After its structure determination, the title compound was prepared in the powder form by the conventional solid state reaction. After an initial treatment similar to that undertaken for the synthesis of the single crystals until 873K, the sample was subjected to final calcinations at 1273K for 48h with

intermittent grinding. Yellowish powder was obtained by quenching in air [8].

**SrCo<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>**

A stoichiometric mixture of SrCO<sub>3</sub>, CoCO<sub>3</sub>, and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> of high purity. (>> 99%) was heated to 1173 K to effect decarbonation, then heated to fusion (1473 K) in a platinum crucible followed by slow cooling(10°C/h). The product contained two types of crystals distinguishable by their color: rose and blue. Those of blue color correspond to the powder of composition SrCo<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [9].

**β-SrCo<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>**

All reagents were used as received without further purification except α-Co<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> which was synthesized by solid state reaction. Single crystal of β-SrCo<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was prepared through a facile hydrothermal synthesis route. A mixture of α-Co<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (0.0584 g, 0.2 mmol), Sr(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.0846 g, 0.4 mmol) and 5 mL H<sub>2</sub>O was stirred for 10 min in air. The obtained mixture was then transferred into a 28 mL Teflon-lined autoclave and heated at 230°C in an oven for 120 h. The autoclave was cooled down to room temperature at a rate of 0.1 °C/min, and purple rhombus-shaped crystals of β-SrCo<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> were isolated, washed with distilled water and dried in air at 60°C [10].

**Sr<sub>5</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(CuO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1/3</sub>**

SrCO<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and CuO (99,99 %) thoroughly ground and mixed in a 5.05:3: x molar ratio (x≤1) were heated stepwise at 400, 600 and 850 °C for 32 h with intermediate regrindings. The powders were pressed in pellets, annealed in air at 1100 °C for 24 hours and air quenched. The samples had blue-violet color that became lighter for low copper content. XRD patterns of specimens with 0.1 < x < 0.8 corresponded to practically pure apatite phase (0.6 % max peak intensity of impurities) [11].

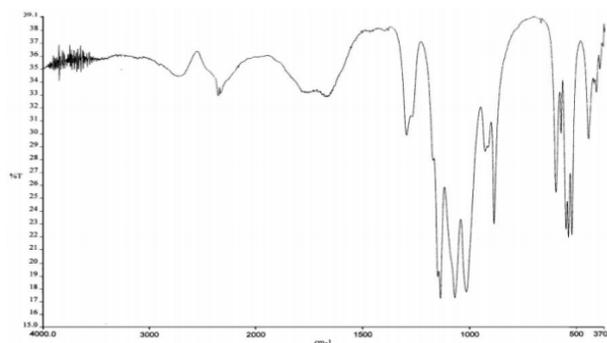
**\* Crystallographic data**

**Table 1:** Main Crystallographic data for the monophosphates associated to strontium

Formula	a(Å) α°	b(Å) β°	c(Å) γ°	Space Group	Z
α-SrHPO <sub>4</sub>	7.184 94.7	6.790 104.9	7.256 88.7	P-1	4
γ-SrHPO <sub>4</sub>	8.131	9.258	18.084	Pbca	16
Sr <sub>5</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (CuO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>1/3</sub>	9.7815	9.7815	7.3018	P6 <sub>3</sub> /m	2
SrCo <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	5.014 118.04	8.639 75.09	9.691 86.90	P-1	2
BaCu <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	9.226 106.76	9.271 101.69	10.516 115.70	P-1	4
KSrPO <sub>4</sub>	7.35	5.56	9.64	Pnma	4

SrCu <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	7.94217	15.36918	10.37036	Pccn	8
β-SrCo <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	5.503 110.235	6.703 101.15	9.238 98.29	P-1	2
Sr <sub>2</sub> Cu(PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	11.5155	5.07543 106.3563	6.57487	C2/m	2
Sr <sub>3</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	9.2010	4.94104 122.8952	17.8998	P21/c	2
Sr <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	10.6119	10.6119	19.7045	R-3 <sub>1</sub> m	3
KSrFe <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	9.809	9.809	9.809	P2 <sub>1</sub> 3	4

**\* Characterization of PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> in γ-SrHPO<sub>4</sub> by IR vibration spectrometry**



**Figure 1:** Infrared spectrum of γ-SrHPO<sub>4</sub> recorded at room temperature between 370 and 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**Table 2:** Frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) of IR absorption bands for γ-SrHPO<sub>4</sub>

Frequencies (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Vibrations
1298	δP-O-H
1170, 1146, 1137	asymmetric (ν <sub>3</sub> )
887	P-O(H)
1070, 1016, 929, 915	symmetric (ν <sub>1</sub> )
600-520	antisymmetric (ν <sub>4</sub> )
450-370	symmetric (ν <sub>2</sub> )

The IR spectrum of γ-SrHPO<sub>4</sub> is reported in Fig.1. Previous workers [11,12] have found that the vibrational bands of inorganic phosphates are generally not very sensitive to the cations in the structure, which tend just to shift the band frequencies slightly rather than to create new bands. Thus, the IR spectrum is dominated by the HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> modes. The 2800-1700 cm<sup>-1</sup> range corresponds to the OH modes of HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> groups characterized by three broad bands of ABC type. Similar bands have been observed in strong hydrogen bonded crystals, such as CaBa(HPO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and PbHPO<sub>4</sub>. The presence of bands in the region 1400-1200 cm<sup>-1</sup> is characteristic of hydrogen monophosphate groups.

They are assigned to  $\delta$ P-O-H in plane bending modes, two bands 1298 and 1267  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are observed for these modes. In the range 1200-800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  appear the  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  stretching modes: the high-frequency bands (1170, 1146, 1137  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) are assigned to the asymmetric ( $\nu_3$ ) mode, whereas the symmetric stretching mode of P-O(H) is observed for the low-frequency 887  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

The remaining bands (1070, 1016, 929, 915  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) are attributed to the symmetric ( $\nu_1$ ) mode. The bands in the range 600-370  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  bending modes. According to previous data, the two well-defined subdivisions of 600-520 and 450-370  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  arise from the antisymmetric ( $\nu_4$ ) and symmetric ( $\nu_2$ ) modes, respectively [4].

### 3. CONDENSED PHOSPHATES

#### 3.1 Synthesis protocols

##### 3.1.1. $\text{P}_2\text{O}_7^{4-}$ :

##### **SrCrP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>**

Equimolar mixtures of the starting materials,  $\text{Cr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  and  $\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  [obtained from  $\text{SrCO}_3$  and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$  by slowly increasing the temperature to 1273 K], were sealed in evacuated silica ampoules ( $l \leq 10 \text{ cm}$ ,  $d \leq 1.6 \text{ cm}$ ) with iodine (100 mg) and CrP (5 mg) as mineralizers and heated at 1223K for 10 d. The addition of CrP was intended to ensure reducing conditions.

Furthermore, we have observed an improved recrystallization via the gas phase, and even chemical vapor transport reactions for many phosphates, using iodine as a mineraliser/transport agent in combination with reducing agents such as metal, phosphorus or metal phosphide. The reaction products were washed with dilute NaOH and water, and dried at 393K. The experiments led to light blue powders of  $\text{SrCrP}_2\text{O}_7$  which always contained small amounts of well recrystallized CrP and  $\text{Cr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  as by-products.

Occasionally, growth of prismatic crystals of  $\text{SrCrP}_2\text{O}_7$  with an edge-length of up to 1 mm was observed. Chemical vapor transport experiments in a temperature gradient (1323K 1223K), aimed at purification and crystallization of  $\text{SrCrP}_2\text{O}_7$ , led to decomposition of the mixed phosphate;  $\text{Cr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  was deposited at the lower temperature region, while  $\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  remained at the higher temperature zone.

$\text{SrCrP}_2\text{O}_7$  is remarkably stable in air and against mild oxidizing agents. By heating  $\text{SrCO}_3$  with  $\text{MnCO}_3$  or ZnO and stoichiometric amounts of  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$  in air slowly to 1073K, single-phase powders of the isotypic diphosphates  $\text{SrMnP}_2\text{O}_7$  and  $\text{SrZnP}_2\text{O}_7$  have also been synthesized [12].

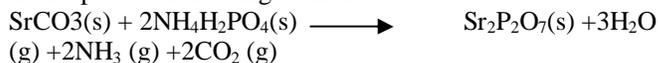
##### **$\alpha$ - $\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$**

Crystals of the form  $\alpha$  of strontium pyrophosphate are obtained from an almost saturated solution of strontium carbonate, in a melt of sodium metaphosphate at 800°C [13].

##### **$\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$**

During the production of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$ , solid powders of strontium carbonate ( $\text{SrCO}_3$ ) and ammonium dihydrogen phosphate ( $\text{NH}_4\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$ ), from Merck and Aldrich, were used.

Stoichiometric amounts of the reactants were calculated with the help of the following formula:



In order to obtain 5 g of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  product, at the beginning 4.227 g of  $\text{SrCO}_3$  and 3.294 g of  $\text{NH}_4\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$  were weighed. Two materials were then mixed homogeneously in an agate mortar by grinding. The mixture was put into furnace and was heated up to 900°C with a heating rate of 700°C/hr. Retention time was set as 14.5h. At the end of this process, when the temperature was reduced to room temperature, the product was reground nicely in an agate mortar [14].

##### **$\text{SrZn}(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7)$**

$\text{SrZnP}_2\text{O}_7$  powders were prepared using a conventional solid-state reaction method. High purity  $\text{SrCO}_3$  (99.0%), ZnO (99.5%) and  $\text{NH}_4\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$  (99.90%) were used as raw materials. Stoichiometric mixtures of starting materials were homogenized by ball-milling with  $\text{ZrO}_2$  balls in acetone for 24 h, and then calcined at 850–900 °C for 2h to investigate the formation process of  $\text{SrZnP}_2\text{O}_7$  phase. The calcined powders were then milled again, dried and sieved. PVA (9wt.%) was added into sieved powders and was granulated, and then uniaxially pressed into pellets with a diameter of 16mm. The compacts were sintered at a temperature range from 900 °C to 980 °C in order to investigate the sintering behaviors.

A mixture of 44.3 mg [0.300 mmol; for  $\text{Sr}_2(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7)$ , 0.6 mmol] of strontium carbonate (Alfa Aesar, 97.5%), 24.3 mg [0.300 mmol; only for  $\text{SrZn}(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7)$ ] of zinc oxide, 1.0 mg (0.003 mmol, doping concn 1.9%) of europium oxide  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  (KristallhandelKelpin, 99.9%), 2.5 mg (0.013 mmol, doping concn 4.3%) of manganese nitrate  $\text{Mn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Merck, 98.5%), and 83.2 mg (0.630 mmol) of ammonium dihydrogen phosphate (ABCR, 98%) was transferred into an alumina boat. The latter was then heated under a hydrogen/nitrogen (10/90) flow (2  $\text{Lh}^{-1}$ ) to 1070K at a rate of 60  $\text{Kh}^{-1}$ . After 18 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature at a rate of 180  $\text{Kh}^{-1}$ . Finally,  $\text{SrM}(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7):\text{Eu},\text{Mn}$  was obtained quantitatively as a crystalline, colorless, and non-hygroscopic powder. According to their powder diffraction patterns, all samples presented herein were single-phase. The composition of obtained samples was checked by energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy and confirmed the respective M/P (M ) Sr, Zn) ratios[15].

##### **$\text{SrNiP}_2\text{O}_7$ et $\text{SrNi}_3(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7)_2$**

Powder samples of  $\text{SrNiP}_2\text{O}_7$  and  $\text{ANi}_3(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7)_2$  (A = Ca, Sr, Ba), 2 g each, were synthesized from stoichiometric amounts of nickel, alkaline earth carbonate and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$ . After dissolution of the starting materials in nitric acid the homogenous solutions have been evaporated to dryness on a heating stirrer. The residues were ground and heated in air at increasing temperatures (600, 800, 1000 and finally to 1100°C), each period lasting one day. The purity of thus obtained powder samples has been controlled by Guinier photographs. The colours of the powdery materials vary from red-orange ( $\text{SrNiP}_2\text{O}_7$ ) over pale orange-yellow

(BaNi<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), yellow (SrNi<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) to pale yellow (CaNi<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>).

Single crystals of SrNiP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> and SrNi<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub> have been obtained by a different procedure. A mixture of SrCO<sub>3</sub> (4.4288 g, 3 mmol), NiO (2.2410 g, 3 mmol) and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> (7.9233 g, 6 mmol) was ground thoroughly in a mortar and transferred to a ceramic crucible. The sample was then heated to 1173 K in a tube furnace, to effect decomposition of the carbonate, followed by melting (1473 K) in a platinum crucible. After controlled cooling (rate 10°C. h<sup>-1</sup>) to 773 K the sample was quenched to room temperature. The product was found to contain red-orange crystals of SrNiP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> and a few yellowishgreen ones, which turned out to be SrNi<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [16].

### SrFeP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

Single crystals of SrFeP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> were obtained by hydrothermal growth starting from the reactants SrF<sub>2</sub> and Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in the molar ratio 2:1 in an aqueous solution of phosphoric acid (7 M). The mixture was sealed in a platinum tube (filling level 40%) and heated at 956 K for 24 h. The maximum pressure reached was 186 MPa. The resulting product was filtered off, washed with distilled water and dried in air at room temperature. The main by-product was unreacted SrF<sub>2</sub> [17].

### (M,Cu)P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (M =Mg,Ca,Sr)

The solid-solution M<sub>2-x</sub>Cu<sub>x</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> with M = Mg, Ca, Sr, and Ba(0≤x≤2) were prepared at 1173 K from powder starting materials M<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> and Cu<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> which are obtained by two processes :The dry and wet methods.

Dry method. Stoichiometric amounts of diammonium phosphate (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> and oxide (MgO, CuO) or carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>, SrCO<sub>3</sub>, BaCO<sub>3</sub>) were mixed, ground in a mortar, and then heated slowly to 1173 K in an alumina crucible. Several heatings of pressed pellets were used to obtain pure powders.

Wet method. The starting diphosphates could be prepared also by precipitation from an aqueous solution Na<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> with an excess of metal nitrate or chloride. The precipitate was filtered, washed with cold water and then heated at 1173K [18].

### SrCoP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

Crystals were synthesized from a mixture of SrCO<sub>3</sub>, CoCO<sub>3</sub> and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> in stoichiometric ratios, heated first in air at 893K to decompose the phosphate and carbonates. After grinding, the resulting product was heated for several days at 1323K in an evacuated silica ampoule [19].

### CdSrP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

Single crystals of CdSrP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>(I) were prepared by heating a stoichiometric mixture of CdCO<sub>3</sub>, SrCO<sub>3</sub>, and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> to liquid state (1350 K) in a platinum carrier, followed by a period of slow cooling (4 Kh<sup>-1</sup>) to 1170 K and further cooling (10Kh<sup>-1</sup>) to 473K [20].

### SrMgP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

A powder has been prepared, according to the chemical formula SrMgP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, starting from equimolar mixtures of the

starting materials SrCO<sub>3</sub>, MgCO<sub>3</sub> and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>. The mixture was heated progressively in air at increasing temperatures up to 1173K [21].

### SrK<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, SrRb<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, and SrCs<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

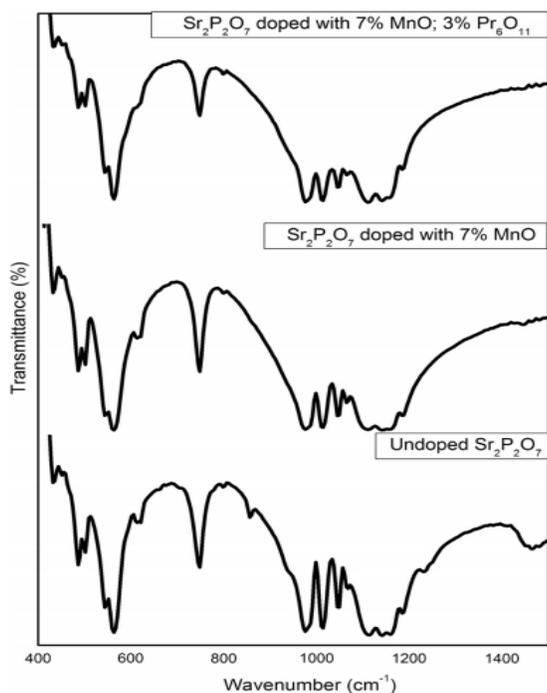
Single crystals of the potassium salt(melting point : mp= 1348K) were prepared by slow cooling of a melt prepared from a stoichiometric mixture of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, SrCO<sub>3</sub>, and NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> first heated at 773 K for 30h before melting. A complete determination of the atomic arrangement was reported. This compound is isotypic with CaK<sub>2</sub>As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>. The same authors performed the crystal structure determination of SrRb<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> and SrCs<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>. These last two compounds are isotypic but not is amorphous with the potassium salt [1].

### \* Crystallographic data

**Table 3:** Main Crystallographic Data for the Monophosphates associated to strontium

Formula	a(Å) α°	b(Å) β°	c(Å) γ°	Space Group	Z
SrCrP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> (monoclinic)	5.422	8.3254 90.39	12.542	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
α-Sr <sub>2</sub> P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> (orthorhombic)	8,9104	5,4035	13,1054	Pna2 <sub>1</sub>	4
Sr <sub>2</sub> P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> (orthorhombic)	8.9459	5.4133	13.2114	Pnma	4
SrZn(P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ) (monoclinic)	5,31	8.2	12.72	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
SrNiP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	5.2691	8.2674 90.246	12.6140	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
SrNi <sub>3</sub> (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	7.4092	7.6594	9.4474	P21/c	2
SrCoP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	5.3165	8.2574 90.133	12.6755	P2/n	4
SrCuP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	12.455	8.129 90.59	5.369	P21/c	4
SrCdP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	5.414	8.615 90.01	12.878	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
SrMgP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	5.309	8.299 10.06	12.68	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
SrZnP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	5.299	8.189 90.0	12.72	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
SrFeP <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	5.370	8.268 90.37	12.693	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	4
SrK <sub>2</sub> P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	9.168	5.712 105.79	14.720	P21/c	4
SrRb <sub>2</sub> P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	10.270	5.867 116.48	14.413	C2/c	4
SrCs <sub>2</sub> P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	10.528	6.081 118.34	14.766	C2/c	4

### \*Characterization of $P_2O_7^{4-}$ in $Sr_2P_2O_7$ by IR vibration spectrometry.



**Figure 2.** FTIR analysis of undoped, MnO and MnO-Pr<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> doped Sr<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> samples [14].

**Table 4:** IR Frequency characteristics (in cm<sup>-1</sup>) for P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub><sup>4-</sup> anions [43]

Vibrations	Frequencies (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
$\nu_{as}(PO_3)$	1060
	1000
$\nu_s(PO_3)$	1000
	900
$\nu_{as}(POP)$	825
	700
$\delta_{as}(PO_3)$	656
	535
$\delta_s(PO_3)$	520
	420

In Fig.2, FTIR analysis of samples undoped Sr<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> and doped with MnO and Pr<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> are given. P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub><sup>4-</sup> vibrational modes were observed within the range of 1500–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> which was consistent with the literature. The anion P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub><sup>4-</sup> contains the PO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> radical and the P–O–P bridge. For the symmetrical and asymmetrical stretching, frequencies are expected within 900–1000 and 1000–1100 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

In Fig. 2, which is the FTIR of strontium pyrophosphate sample, peaks of asymmetrical PO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> radical bending mode was seen around 1000 and 1060 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The P-O-P bridge peaks were observed around 700–825 cm<sup>-1</sup>. These peaks proved the presence of pyrophosphate within the structure.

In the IR plot of undoped Sr<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, the band around 1400 cm<sup>-1</sup> can be assigned as the remaining impurity of dibasic orthophosphate, HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> which is common in pyrophosphate formation and not present in the doped samples which were heated at higher temperature than undoped samples for longer time. The overall peak structure was consistent with the undoped strontium pyrophosphate structural peaks.

### 3.1.2. P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub><sup>5-</sup>

#### Sr<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Cl

The chemicals used in this work were all analytical-grade and were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (Aldrich, 98%), MgO (Alfa Aesar, 99.9%), SrCl<sub>2</sub> (Alfa Aesar, 99.9%), SrO (Alfa Aesar, 99.9%), and NaCl (Alfa Aesar, 99.9%), SrCO<sub>3</sub> (Alfa Aesar, 99.9%), NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (Alfa Aesar, 99.9%).

Crystals of title compound were grown by employing the NaCl and SrCl<sub>2</sub> flux in a fused quartz ampule. The reactants were ground and loaded in an Ar purged drybox and then flame-sealed under vacuum prior to heating. In the reaction, MgO, SrO and P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> were mixed in a 2:1:3 mol ratio (ca. ~0.3 g) and added to a SrCl<sub>2</sub>/NaCl (in a 1:1 mol ratio) eutectic flux equal to 3 times the mass of oxides reactants.

The mixture were heated to 850°C at a rate of 3°C/min, held for 12 h, and then slowly cooled, at a rate of 0.1°C/min, to 300°C, followed by furnace-cooling. The colorless transparent crystals were retrieved from the flux by washing the products with deionized water using suction filtration. The colorless crystals were collected with about 20% yield (based on P). The crystals appear to be relatively stable in air and water [22].

### 3.1.3. P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>13</sub><sup>6-</sup>, P<sub>5</sub>O<sub>16</sub><sup>7-</sup>

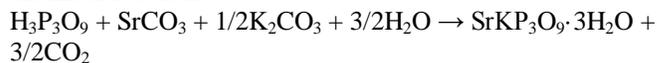
Until now, there are no oligophosphate associated to strontium for such anions P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>13</sub><sup>6-</sup> and P<sub>5</sub>O<sub>16</sub><sup>7-</sup>.

## 3.2 Cyclophosphates (P<sub>n</sub>O<sub>3n</sub>)<sup>n-</sup>

### 3.2.1. P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub><sup>3-</sup>

#### SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O

Polycrystalline samples of SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O are prepared by adding dilute cyclotriphosphoric acid to an aqueous solution of strontium carbonate and potassium carbonate with a stoichiometric ratio Sr/K = 1, according to the following chemical reaction:



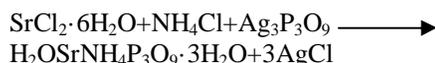
The so-obtained solution is then slowly evaporated at room temperature until polycrystalline samples of SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O are obtained. The cyclotriphosphoric acid used in this reaction was prepared from an aqueous solution of Na<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> passed through an ion-exchange resin “Amberlite IR 120” [23].

**SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>**

A Polycrystalline sample of SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> was obtained as polycrystalline samples by total dehydration of SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O under atmospheric pressure between 250 and 350°C according to the following chemical reaction [23]

$$\text{SrKP}_3\text{O}_9 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow \text{SrKP}_3\text{O}_9 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$$
**SrNH<sub>4</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O**

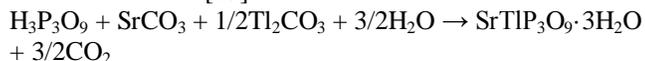
SrNH<sub>4</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O was prepared by the metathesis reaction of Boule using silver cyclotriphosphate monohydrate as starting material. An aqueous solution of SrCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl in stoichiometric proportions is added with the corresponding amount of Ag<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, according to the following chemical reaction [24]



After filtration, to eliminate the insoluble silver chloride, the resulting solution is kept at room temperature until the formation of prismatic crystals of SrNH<sub>4</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O with hexagonal section.

**SrTIP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O**

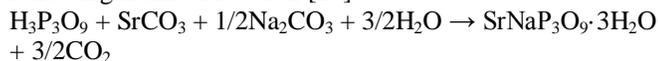
Polycrystalline samples of SrTIP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O were prepared by the method of ion exchange resin “Amberlite IR 120” with a stoichiometric ratio Sr:K = 1, according to the following chemical reaction [25]

**SrTIP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>**

A Polycrystalline sample of SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> was obtained as polycrystalline samples by total dehydration of SrKP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O under atmospheric pressure between 300 and 650°C according to the following chemical reaction [25]

$$\text{SrTIP}_3\text{O}_9 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow \text{SrTIP}_3\text{O}_9 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$$
**SrNaP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O**

Polycrystalline samples of SrNaP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O were prepared by the method of ion exchange resin “Amberlite IR 120” with a stoichiometric ratio Sr/K = 1, according to the following chemical reaction [27] :

**Sr<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O**

Polycrystalline Sample of the title compound, Sr<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O was prepared by adding slowly dilute cyclotriphosphoric acid to aqueous solutions of strontium carbonate according to the following chemical reaction [28]

$$2\text{H}_3\text{P}_3\text{O}_9 + 3\text{SrCO}_3 + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow \text{Sr}_3(\text{P}_3\text{O}_9)_2 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O} + 3\text{CO}_2$$

The so-obtained solution was then slowly evaporated at room temperature until a polycrystalline sample of Sr<sub>3</sub>(P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O was obtained.

**SrRbP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O**

Polycrystalline samples of SrRbP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O were prepared by the method of ion exchange resin with a stoichiometric ratio Sr/Rb=1, according to the following chemical reaction [29]

$$\text{H}_3\text{P}_3\text{O}_9 + \text{SrCO}_3 + 1/2\text{Rb}_2\text{CO}_3 + 3/2\text{H}_2\text{O} \longrightarrow \text{SrRbP}_3\text{O}_9 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O} + 3/2\text{CO}_2$$
**SrRbP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>**

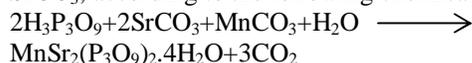
SrRbP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> was obtained as polycrystalline samples by total dehydration of SrRbP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O under atmospheric pressure between 300 and 400 °C according to the following chemical reaction [29].



With further increase in temperature, SrRbP<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> was found to be stable and then melted at 760°C.

**MnSr<sub>2</sub>(P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O**

Through a column of ion exchange resin (Na<sup>+</sup> by H<sup>+</sup>), “Amberlite IR 120”. A concentrated solution of Na<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> is slowly added. The cyclotriphosphoric acid H<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> thus obtained is immediately neutralized with a mixture of stoichiometric amounts of carbonates [26], MnCO<sub>3</sub> and SrCO<sub>3</sub>, according to the following chemical reaction:



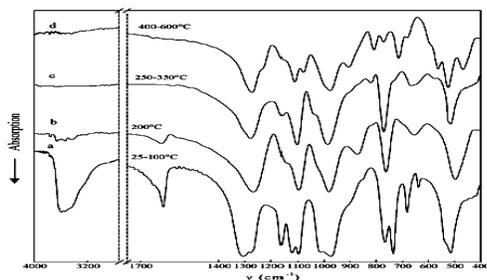
The solution abandoned for a few days, MnSr<sub>2</sub>(P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O is obtained in the form of crystals and powder having a pinkish white color [30,44].

**\* Crystallographic data**

**Table 5:** Main Crystallographic Data for the cyclotriphosphates associated to strontium

Formula	a(Å) α°	b(Å) β°	c(Å) γ°	Space Group	Z
SrKP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·3H <sub>2</sub> O	9.082	8.133	15.009	<i>Pnma</i>	4
SrKP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	14.957	8.372 102.27	7.909	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/m</i> or <i>P2<sub>1</sub></i>	4
SrNH <sub>4</sub> P <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·3H <sub>2</sub> O	9.126	8.157	15.256	<i>Pnma</i>	4
SrTIP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·3H <sub>2</sub> O	9.147	8.180	15.458	<i>Pnma</i>	4
SrTIP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	14.544	8.639	7.727	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/m</i> or <i>P2<sub>1</sub></i>	4
MnSr <sub>2</sub> (P <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O	6.653	7.110	5.123	<i>P-1</i>	1
SrNaP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·3H <sub>2</sub> O	16.167	12.013	10.645	<i>Pnma</i>	4
Sr <sub>3</sub> (P <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·7H <sub>2</sub> O	16.05	12.33	10.87	<i>Pnma</i>	4
SrRbP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	14.958	8.503	8.503	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/m</i> or <i>P2<sub>1</sub></i>	4
SrRbP <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ·3H <sub>2</sub> O	9.120	8.141	15.234	<i>Pnma</i>	4
MnSr <sub>2</sub> (P <sub>3</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O	6,653 103,37	7,110 95,81	5,123 93,04	<i>P-1</i>	1

### \* Characterization of $P_3O_9^{3-}$ in $SrKP_3O_9 \cdot 3H_2O$ by IR vibration spectrometry



**Fig. 3.** IR spectra of the phosphates (a)  $SrKP_3O_9 \cdot 3H_2O$ , (b) amorphous phase, (c)  $SrKP_3O_9$  and (d)  $SrK_2P_4O_{12} + \gamma[Sr(PO_3)_2]$  [23, 42]

**Table 6:** Frequencies ( $cm^{-1}$ ) of IR absorption bands for  $SrKP_3O_9 \cdot 3H_2O$

Frequencies ( $cm^{-1}$ )	Vibrations
3416	$\nu$ OH
1616	$\delta$ HOH
1307	$\nu_{as}$ OPO
1271	$\nu_s$ OPO
1159	$\nu_s$ OPO
1120	$\nu_s$ OPO
1103	$\nu_s$ OPO
983	$\nu_{as}$ POP
871	$\nu_{as}$ POP
744	$\nu_s$ POP
688	$\nu_s$ POP
645	$\delta$ OPO
635	+
526	$\rho$ OPO

The IR absorption spectra of  $SrKP_3O_9 \cdot 3H_2O$  and  $SrKP_3O_9$  are reported in Fig.3. In the domain  $4000-1600\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the spectrum (a) (Fig. 3a) shows three bands at  $3568$ ,  $2400$  and  $1611\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The band at  $3568\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to the stretching vibrations of water molecules ( $\nu$ O-H).

The band at  $2400\text{ cm}^{-1}$  corresponds to hydrogen bonding [23].

The band at  $1611\text{ cm}^{-1}$  represents the bending vibration of water molecules ( $\delta$ HOH). The domain  $1400-650\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , characteristic of the valence vibration bands of the cycle. Among these bands can be distinguished:

- The vibration bands of the (OPO) end groups at high frequencies:  $1180 < \nu_{as}\text{ OPO} < 1340\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1060 < \nu_s\text{ OPO} < 1180\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;

- the valency vibrations of the (P-O-P) ring groups at :  $960 < \nu_{as}\text{ POP} < 1060\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $660 < \nu_s\text{ POP} < 960\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;

### $3.4 P_4O_{12}^{4-}$

#### $SrNa_2P_4O_{12} \cdot 6H_2O$

Polycrystalline samples of  $SrNa_2P_4O_{12} \cdot 6H_2O$  were readily prepared by mixing concentrated solutions of

$Na_2P_4O_{12} \cdot 4H_2O$  and  $Sr(NO_3)_2$  in an equimolar ratio and allowing the mixture to evaporate at room temperature for a few days [31] [32].

#### $SrK_2P_4O_{12}$

$SrKP_3O_9$  leads between  $400$  and  $650\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , to a mixture of  $SrK_2P_4O_{12}$  crystallized and  $\beta[Sr(PO_3)_2]$  amorphous phase in X-ray diffraction. This mixture is stable until the melting points at  $696\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of  $SrK_2P_4O_{12}$  see above the figure.3 [23].

#### $Sr(NH_4)_2P_4O_{12}$ ,

$Sr(NH_4)_2P_4O_{12}$ ,  $SrTi_2P_4O_{12}$ , and  $SrRb_2P_4O_{12}$ . These three salts isotopic with  $SrK_2P_4O_{12}$ .

Fifteen mmol ( $4.82\text{g}$ ) of anhydrous  $(NH_4)_4P_4O_{12}$ , obtained from  $Na_4P_4O_{12} \cdot 4H_2O$ , were dissolved in  $60\text{ cm}^3$  of water. fifteen- $\text{cm}^3$  ( $7.5\text{ mmol}$ ) of the  $0.5\text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  strontium stirred. After 1h, the precipitate was filtered off and dried as described above. At least 92% of the P atoms were in the form of cyclo-tetraphosphate. [33]

#### $Cs_4Sr_3H_2(P_4O_{12})_3$

During experiments to optimize the chemical preparations of the tetrametaphosphate-polyphosphate of Cs-Sr,  $Sr_2Cs_3(P_4O_{12})(PO_3)_3$ , and of the Cs-Pb polyphosphate  $PbCs_2(PO_3)_4$  frequently observed the formation of tetrahedra slightly soluble in water. This solubility proves that the compound is not a polyphosphate but probably a Cs-rich cyclophosphate. The structural analysis shows that this salt is  $Cs_4Sr_3H_2(P_4O_{12})_3$ . [34]

#### $Sr[NH_3(CH_2)_2NH_3]P_4O_{12} \cdot 5H_2O$

The process for the preparation of the title compound is identical to that used for all the salts of the series. Crystals were prepared by adding strontium carbonate and ethylenediamine in a stoichiometric ratio to a water solution of cyclo-tetraphosphoric acid kept at low temperature ( $T < 278\text{ K}$ ); after slow evaporation large prisms with rectangular section are obtained [35]

### \* Crystallographic data

**Table 7:** Main Crystallographic Data for the cyclo-tetraphosphates associated to strontium

Formula	a(Å) $\alpha^\circ$	b(Å) $\beta^\circ$	c(Å) $\gamma^\circ$	Space Group	Z
$SrNa_2P_4O_{12} \cdot 6H_2O$	9.838	9.838	5.003	$P4/nbm$	2
$SrK_2P_4O_{12}$	7.445	7.445	10.17	I-4	2
$Sr(NH_4)_2P_4O_{12}$	7.575	7.575	10.26	I-4	
$SrTi_2P_4O_{12}$	7.608	7.608	10.25	I-4	2
$SrRb_2P_4O_{12}$	7.585	7.585	10.28	I-4	2
$Cs_4Sr_3H_2(P_4O_{12})_3$	14.544	15.455	15.455	I-43d	2
$Sr[NH_3(CH_2)_2NH_3]P_4O_{12} \cdot 5H_2O$	17.863	15.317	13.109	Pbca	8

### 3.5 $P_6O_{18}^{6-}$

#### $Sr_2(NH_4)_2P_6O_{18} \cdot 7H_2O$

Ammonium strontium cyclo-hexaphosphatehepta hydrate  $Sr_2(NH_4)_2P_6O_{18} \cdot 7H_2O$ , five mmol (3.045g) of  $(NH_4)_2P_6O_{18} \cdot 1.5H_2O$  were dissolved in 30cm<sup>3</sup> of water. Then the solution was mixed with 20cm<sup>3</sup> (10mmol) of the 0.5 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> strontium chloride solution. The mixture was stirred for 30min. the precipitate was then filtered off, washed, and dried as above found Sr,21.87;N,3.32;P,23.03;H<sub>2</sub>O,15.57%. Calcd for

$Sr_2(NH_4)_2P_6O_{18} \cdot 7H_2O$ : Sr,21.61;N,3.45;P,22.91;H<sub>2</sub>O,15.53%. At least 97% of the P atoms were found as cyclo- $P_6O_{18}^{6-}$  ions [33].

### 3.6 Long chain polyphosphates $(PO_3)_n$

#### $Sr(PO_3)_2$ $\beta$ and $\gamma$ forms

Single crystals of  $\beta$ -Sr  $(PO_3)_2$  and  $\gamma$ -Sr  $(PO_3)_2$  were obtained from mixtures of  $NH_4H_2PO_4$ ,  $SrCl_2$  and  $Y_2O_3$  taken respectively in molar ratios Y: Sr: P = 1: 20: 150 and Y: Sr: P = 2: 40: 100 and brought respectively to 623 K and 773 K for 16h, then cooled slowly (0.2 K min<sup>-1</sup>) [36].

#### $Sr(HOCC_6H_4PO_3H)_2, \alpha$ -phase

To 60mL of a mixture of water and ethanol (1/1 v/v) was added 0.44 g ( $2 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) of 4-carboxyphenylphosphonic acid monohydrate,  $HOCC_6H_4PO_3H_2 \cdot H_2O$ . The mixture was heated under stirring until the acid dissolved. To this solution, cooled to room temperature, 0.42g of  $Sr(NO_3)_2$  ( $2 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) dissolved in 10mL of water was added. Immediately after mixing a precipitate was formed. The reaction mixture was stirred for additional 10 min. The product was obtained in a 63% yield (0.308g). Elemental analysis (%) for  $C_{14}H_{12}O_{10}P_2Sr$  (489.8): calculated C 34.30, H2.45; found C 34.82, H 2.28 [37].

#### $Sr_3(OOCC_6H_4PO_3)_2 \cdot 5.7H_2O$

Using an automated burette, 65.9mL of 0.315M  $NH_4OH$  solution was added to 1.32 g ( $6 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) of 4-carboxyphenylphosphonic acid monohydrate in 20mL of water and 20mL of ethanol to adjust pH to 9. To this solution, 1.902 g of  $Sr(NO_3)_2$  ( $9 \times 10^{-3}$  mol) in 20mL of water was added. Slowly formed precipitate was dried over  $P_2O_5$  in a dessicator. The yield of the product was 1.47 g (67%). Elemental analysis calculated (%) for  $C_{14}H_{19.4}O_{15.7}P_2Sr_3$  (763.6): C 22.00, H 2.54; found C 21.27, H 2.54 [37].

#### $Sr_3(OOCC_6H_4PO_3)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$

About 0.1386 g of  $Sr_3(OOCC_6H_4PO_3)_2 \cdot 5.7H_2O$  ( $1.8 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) prepared according to the above given procedure was dissolved in 8mL of water. The reaction mixture was heated under auto-geneous pressure at 180°C for 48 h. The yield was 0.076 g (57%). The same compound, but in a distinctly lower yield, can be obtained by heating an aqueous solution of the starting compound until precipitation. Elemental

analysis calculated (%) for  $C_{14}H_{16}O_{14}P_2Sr_3$  (733.1): C 22.92, H 2.18; found C 21.12, H 1.95 [37].

#### $Sr(PO_3)_2$

Thilo and Grunze also investigated the thermal condensation of  $Sr(H_2PO_4)_2$  and found its course very similar to that observed in the case of calcium.  $Sr(PO_3)_2$  produced by calcination of  $Sr_3(P_3O_9)_2 \cdot 7H_2O$  at temperatures higher than 873 K was identified as the  $\beta$  form, isotypic with calcium and lead polyphosphates. [28]

#### $SrNa(PO_3)_3$

$SrNa(PO_3)_3$  appears as an incongruent melting compound decomposing at 1023K in the  $NaPO_3$ - $Sr(PO_3)_2$  phase-equilibrium diagram elaborated. The crystal data reported by these authors showed this salt to be isotypic with  $PbLi(PO_3)_3$ . [38]

#### $SrLi(PO_3)_3$

Samples for powder studies were prepared by calcining at 700°C a mixture of suitable proportions of lithium carbonate, strontium carbonate and biamonic phosphate. the single crystals are prepared by calcining for 24h  $H_3PO_4$  (85%) in which 2g of strontium carbonate and 2g of lithium carbonate have been introduced. The crystals obtained are in the form of very short oblic prisms with a square base or square platelets [39].

#### $SrNa(PO_3)_3$

Monocrystals of the compound are easily prepared by attacking a stoichiometric mixture of carbonates with an excess of orthophosphoric acid and calcining the liquor obtained between 300 and 400°C for 24 hours. Polycrystalline samples can be prepared by calcining a stoichiometric mixture of carbonates and diammonium monophosphate at 650°C for strontium salt [40].

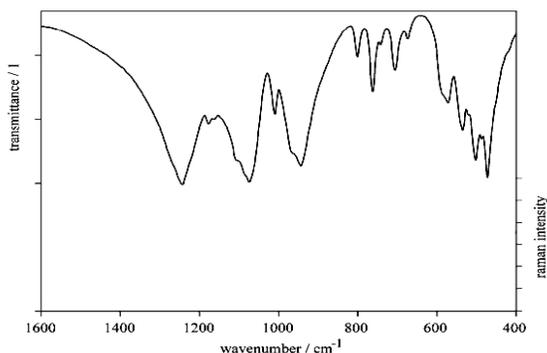
#### \* Crystallographic data

**Table 8:** Main Crystallographic Data for the polyphosphates associated to strontium

Formula	a(Å) $\alpha^\circ$	b(Å) $\beta^\circ$	c(Å) $\gamma^\circ$	Space Group	Z
$\beta$ -Sr $(PO_3)_2$	7,209	7,9527 90,64	17,414	$P2_1/c$	8
$\gamma$ -Sr $(PO_3)_2$	4,498	10,911 91,56	10,375	$P2_1/c$	4
$SrLi(PO_3)_3$	7.163 100.07	7.360 98.49	6.767 83.59	P-1	8
$Sr(PO_3)_2$	7.204	7.936	17.40	$P2_1/c$	4
$SrNa(PO_3)_3$	7.162 99.68	7.73 97.29	6.831 83.84	P-1	2
$Sr(HOCC_6H_4PO_3H)_2, \alpha$ -phase	38.736	5.834 95.94	7.808	$P2_1/a$	4
$Sr_3(OOCC_6H_4PO_3)_2 \cdot 5.7H_2O$	21.59	3.294 114.40	12.34	$P2_1/m$	4
$Sr_3(OOCC_6H_4PO_3)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$	13.640	5.864 99.02	13.466	$P2_1/n$	4
$Sr(HOCC_6H_4PO_3)_2 \cdot H_2O$	24.480	8.166	5.689	$P2_1/c$	4

		125.670			
Sr(HOOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> PO <sub>3</sub> H) <sub>2</sub> ,β-phase	46.58	7.868 123.30	5.603	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c	4
SrHOOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> PO <sub>3</sub>	19.902	5.629 96.090	7.743	C2/c	4

#### \* Characterization of PO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> in α-Sr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> by IR vibration spectrometry



**Figure 4:** Infrared vibrational spectrum of α-Sr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

**Table 9:** Frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) of IR absorption bands for α-Sr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

Fréquences (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Vibrations
1310	ν <sub>as</sub> OPO <sup>-</sup>
1243	
1074	ν <sub>s</sub> OPO <sup>-</sup>
944	ν <sub>as</sub> POP
792	ν <sub>s</sub> POP
746	
705	
611	δ OPO <sup>-</sup> + ρ OPO <sup>-</sup>
607	
520	

Fig.4. shows the IR spectrum of the title compound α-Sr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. The IR spectrum of catena-polyphosphates are not significantly different from those of catena-oligophosphates. The only characteristic bands should be found in the region between 800 and 650 cm<sup>-1</sup>, where the number of bands should correspond to the periodicity of the phosphate chain. Unfortunately, this holds quite reliably only for low chain periodicities. In α-Sr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, the characteristic frequencies of catena-polyphosphate chains such as the ν<sub>as</sub>(PO<sub>2</sub>) are detected between 1200 and 1310 cm<sup>-1</sup> with a maximum at 1243 cm<sup>-1</sup>, the very intense ν<sub>as</sub>(POP) at 944 cm<sup>-1</sup> and ν(PO<sub>term</sub>) ranging from 1019 up to 1100 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Thus the observed vibrational data are in good agreement with the expected values [41].

#### 4. CONCLUSION

In this work we have tried to review the different methods of preparation for condensed phosphates and monophosphates (classical methods, ion-exchange resins, Boule's process, flux methods, thermal methods as dehydration and hydrothermal method). Furthermore, we have collected crystallographic data for the various condensed phosphates and monophosphates associated to strontium with known structures. Especially these anions, were characterized by infrared vibration spectrometry. Until today there are no condensed phosphates studied with the following anions: cyclophosphates P<sub>n</sub>O<sub>3n</sub><sup>n-</sup> (3 types of anions: P<sub>5</sub>O<sub>15</sub><sup>5-</sup>, P<sub>8</sub>O<sub>24</sub><sup>8-</sup>, P<sub>12</sub>O<sub>36</sub><sup>12-</sup>) and oligophosphates (P<sub>n</sub>O<sub>3n+1</sub>)<sup>(n+2)-</sup> (2 types of anions : P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>13</sub><sup>6-</sup>, P<sub>5</sub>O<sub>16</sub><sup>7-</sup>).

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