# INSTYTUT FIZYKI JADROWEJ W KRAKOWIE

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OF WATER MOLECULES
IN CRYSTALLINE Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O

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DRGANIA SIECIOWE DROBIN WODY O NISKICH CZĘSTOŚCIACH
W KRYSTALICZNYM Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O

низкочастотная динамика молекул воды в кристаллическом  $\mathbf{Li_2so_4.H_2o}$ 

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Cracow February, 1972 Low frequency lattice vibrations in lithium sulphate monchydrate were obtained using the IMS, IR and RS methods. They were interpreted as lattice acoustic vibrations of Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.E<sub>2</sub>O erystal.

We suppose that it was possible to obtain accountic vibrations by optical methods owing to the existence in the crystal lattice of an orientational disorder of water moleculus.

Niskie częstości drgań sieciowych monohydratu siarczanu litu uzyskano metodani: INS, IR i RS. Zostaży one zinterpretowane jako wziązane z drganiami akustycznymi sieci krystalicznej Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O.

Wysunięto hopotesę, że ewidencja drgań akustycznych metodami spektroskopii optycznej staka się możliwa dzięki istnieniu orientacyjnego nieuporządkowania molekuł wody w krysztale. Низкие частоты решеточных колебаний моногидрата сульфата лития были получены методом НРН, ИК, КР и интерпретированы как акустические колебания кристалли-ческой решетки.

Предполагается, что выявление акустических колебаний методами оптической спектроскопии, стало возможным благодаря существованию орментировочного беспорядка молекул воды в кристалле.

#### 1. Introduction

Among crystals containing water of crystallization, ice and lithium sulphate monohydrate occupy exceptional position, because of the specific situation of water molecules in both crystals. Namely, there exist chains of hydrogen bonds between water molecules and also two types of lattice defects - orientational and ionic (Fig. 1a and b). These facts are of primary importance for the lattice dynamics and also for the electrical and relaxational properties of both crystals.

In this paper we show the possibility of obtaining by infra-red and Eaman spectroscopy information concerning accustic vibrations in Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O crystals. This possibility arises because of the disordered structure which cancles the forbiddance of detection of the accustic type of motion in optical spectroscopy. It is also possible that two quasi-particles are involved in the photon absorption or scattering process, thus enabling a penetration of the whole Brillouin zone, not only of the q=0 region.

## 2. Experimental

The main part of the experimental material for LigSO4. HgO and LigSO4. DgO was obtained on the far infrared Grubb-Parsons interferometer IRIs belonging to the Institute of Nuclear Physics in Kraków. The wave number range covered by the measurements was 50 - 300 cm -1. Samples were prepared in the form of a Nujol mull and placed between polyethylene plates. Measurements with various concentrations of monohydrate an Nujel were made, but only at room temperature. Interfefograms were transformed to absorption vs. wave number dependence by using a fast Fourier transformation programme 11 and the ODRA-1204 computer. Several experimental runs were made and a good reproducibility of results was obtained, Additionally, two measurements of absorption in far infra-red, for Li2SO4.H2O with two independent samples, were made for us by Mr. A. Baise at the Edward Davies Chemical Laboratories in Aberystwyth, U.K. on a Grubb-Parsons cube interferometer, also at room temperature. A comparison of absorption spectra of Li2SO4 H2O and Li2SO4.D20 at roughly the same concentration in Nujol (ca. 0.22 g/ml) is presented in Fig. 2. Figure 3

presents absorption spectra of Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.D<sub>2</sub>O at various concentrations. Figure 4 presents the Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O spectrum measured at the Edward Davies Chemical Laboratories.

The second part of the experimental material (only for Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O) was obtained from a previously made neutron inclastic incoherent scattering experiment (IINS) <sup>/2/</sup>. These results, however, were now transformed into the phonon density spectrum g(G). Its comparison with far infra-red data is presented in Fig. 5.

The third part of the experimental material may only be treated as complementary to the two preceding ones. It consists of Raman spectra which were measured on the Cary Model 81 spectrometer with a He-Ne laser light source, belonging to the Chemical Institute of the University of Oslo (Fig. 5).

#### 3. Discussion of results

As may be seen from Fig. 5 the two spectra, the far infra-red one and the IINS one, are very similar, especially in their lower frequency parts. The two spectra have similar numbers of peaks and their positions coincide. We believe that the peaks correspond to maxima of phonon density connected with translatory

motions of water molecules. Arguments for such an interpretation come from the relatively high intensity of neutron peaks, which must certainly be attributed to the motions of hydrogen atoms, and also from the near identity of the Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O and Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.D<sub>2</sub>O spectra, as seen from Fig. 2.

A great similarity of neutron and infra-red spectra in the 50 - 120 cm<sup>-1</sup> region leads us to the conclusion that the corresponding peaks are connected with acoustic phonons. This interpretation is at first sight shocking. It is a very well known fact that infra-red and Raman spectroscopy are unable to give information concerning acoustic phonons because in the scattering process only the q=0 phonons may be involved. The IINS method may on the other hand penetrate the whole Brillouin zone.

Before we try to solve this paradox, we should note that in a number of papers \(^{3}\),\(^{4}\),\(^{5}\),\(^{6}\),\(^{7}\), the possibility of detection of acoustic phonons in interaction with photons was discussed. In all cases this possibility was connected with various types of disorder in the crystal. Whalley et al.,\(^{7}\),\(^{8}\),\(^{9}\), for instance, explain IR evidence of what they interpret as acoustic phonons in ice as being caused by the

existence of an orientational disorder of H<sub>2</sub>O molecules in the ice lattice. The authors present a theory of infra-red absorption by orientationally disordered crystals, and prove that there are no selection rules forbidding photon interactions with acoustic phonons.

We now stress the fact that in lithium sulphate monohydrate there exists a similar open chain of mutually connected water molecules as in ice/10/,/11/. therefore natural to assume in the Li2SO4.H2O crystal a similar orientational disorder of H<sub>o</sub>O molecules. We are tempted to express this fact in terms of the Gosar /12/ idea of correlated rotational interactions in ice. According to this idea there exists a quasi-particle connected with correlated proton shifts. This quasiparticle may also be treated as a transport of a Bjerrum defect through the lattice, (Fig. 1a). If such a quasi-particle indeed exists it may interact both with photons and with accustic phonons, thus leading to two quasi-particle light absorption (or light scattering), not necessarily limited to the q=0 region. similar picture could appear in connection with the transport of the ionic defect through the lattice (Fig. 1b).

#### 4. Conclusion

In summing up, we stress the fact of a great similarity between the  $\operatorname{Li}_2\mathrm{SO}_4.\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  crystal and ice. In both crystals there exist orientational disorders of  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  molecules leading to a violation of the restriction which forbids the acoustic vibrations to be seen in infra-red and Raman spectroscopy. It remains an open problem whether such orientational disorders may be correlated, thus leading to the existence of a specific quasi particle in both crystals. Support for such a picture may be the fact of a preferred proton conductivity in the direction of the  $2_1$  - axis in the  $\operatorname{Li}_2\mathrm{SO}_4.\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  crystal, as measured by Thomas and  $\operatorname{Clark}^{13/}$ .

## Acknowledgements

Our thanks are due to Professor Mansel Davies and to Mr. A. Baise from the Edward Davies Laboratory in Aberystwyth for their measurements on the cube interferometer. We also thank Doc. P. Klaeboe from the Chemical Institute of the University of Oslo for his kind help in enabling us to use the CARY 81 Model Raman Spectrometer.

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#### Figure captions

- Fig. 1a Transport of a Bjerrum defect through the chain. Proton 1 is shifted by rotation as shown by the arrow and a hole remains in its previous position. This hole will soon be occupied by proton 2 shifted rotationally from the next hydrogen bond eto.
- Fig. 1b Transport of an ionic defect through the chain.

  Proton 1 is shifted to the second equilibrium position of the hydrogen bond. This causes a shift of the proton in the next hydrogen bond to a similar shift etc.
- Fig. 2. A comparison of infra-red absorption spectra of Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O and Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.D<sub>2</sub>O measured on the IRIS instrument. Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.D<sub>2</sub>O spectrum is elevated by one In Tunit in respect to Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O one. Resolution 4 cm<sup>-1</sup>.
- Fig. 3. Far infra-red absorption spectrum of Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.D<sub>2</sub>O at different concentrations measured on the IRIS instrument.
- Fig. 4. Far infra-red absorption spectrum of Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O measured with two different samples on the cube instrument.
- Fig. 5. A comparison of far infra-red data and neutron incoherent inelastic scattering data for Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O.
- Fig. 6. Raman spectrum of Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O in the low frequency region. Arrows are pointing the peaks connected with acoustic phonons.

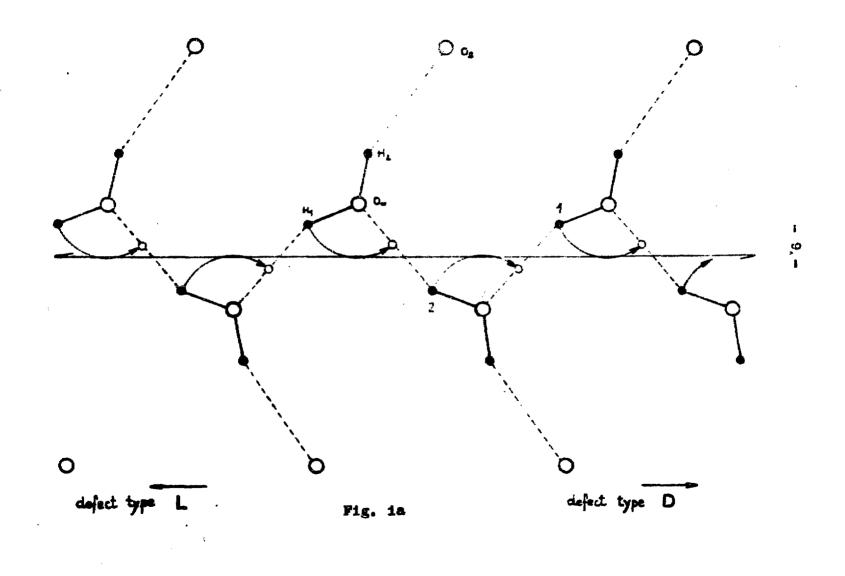


Fig. 2

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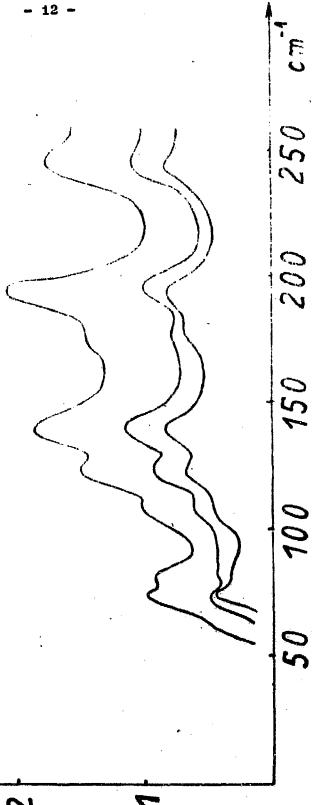
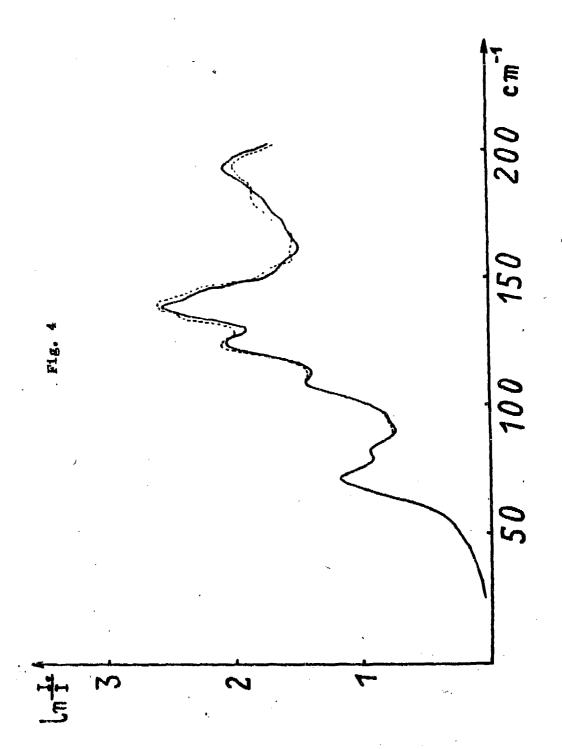


Fig. 3



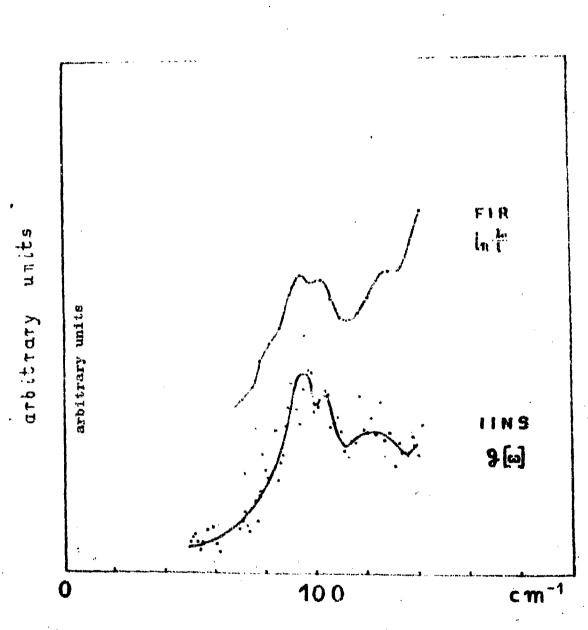


Fig. 5

