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Within the NFI powder XRD is mainly used for:

1. Characterization of powders of unknown composition

In The Netherlands the number of anonymous threatening letters sent to politicians and other VIP's has increased since 9/11 and the murder of Pim Fortuyn. To aggravate the threatening effect some senders enclose cartridges or powders in the letters. The risk of such enclosed powders is assessed by means of a standard procedure. If the risk is considered negligible or absent, the powder is characterized by means of FTIR, XRF and XRD. This generally leads to a quick and clear characterization of the powder. Mostly these powders are composed of household articles, such as flour, sugar or washing powder. In some cases more particular compounds, e.g. medicines, are present, which can be important information for the criminal investigation process.

2. Comparison of materials found at a scene of crime

In a particular case threatening letters were produced on pink sheets of paper. In the house of the suspect a bundle of similar pink paper was found. A comparative investigation of pink papers from different origin was carried focussing on the characterization of fillers and the cellulose crystallinity. The result was that the questioned paper and the paper found at the suspect's house could not be distinguished from each other and that all other papers contained different fillers.

3. Characterization of pyrotechnical mixtures

In The Netherlands, strict regulations are effective with respect to the composition of consumer fireworks. The maximum allowable mass of the explosive charge depends on the chemical composition of the charge. By means of XRD the components of pyrotechnical mixtures can be identified easily and quickly.

**Keywords:** forensic mineralogy, paper, powder X-ray diffraction

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**X-ray Chemical Analysis for Forensic Applications using Synchrotron Radiation**

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A synchrotron radiation (SR) light source is one of the important technologies in the forensic science. Especially, it was expected that the use of high-energy X-rays from SPring-8 as an excitation source for X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis would be suitable for distinguishing the difference in the origin of the trace amount of samples. We first developed high-energy XRF utilizing 116 keV SR to conduct a scientific investigation to aid in the solving of an arsenic murder that occurred in Wakayama City on July 25, 1998 [1]. We have successfully detected the ppm levels of Sn, Sb, and Bi included in arsenic acid as the impurities. As a result, it was found that the trace heavy element compositions are distinct from each other, reflecting the different places of production. This technique has already come into routine use by the Forensic Science Laboratory of the Hyogo Prefecture Police Headquarters to solve several important criminal cases occurring all over Japan [2]. They have been beginning an analysis for various forensic samples such as gunshot residue particles, tiny glass pieces, paint chips, fluorescent powders.

In this talk, some experimental results of chemical analyses applied to the actual criminal investigations will be presented.

[1] Nakai I., *X-ray spectrometry: Recent Technological Advances*, 2004, 355.

[2] Ninomiya, T., *X-ray spectrometry: Recent Technological Advances*, 2004, 553.

**Keywords:** synchrotron radiation applications, forensic microanalysis, X-ray fluorescence analysis

**MS07 CRYSTAL CHEMISTRY OF INORGANIC AND MINERAL COMPOUNDS**

**Chairpersons:** Wulf Depmeier, Herta Effenberger

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**The Zintl-Klemm Concept Applied to Cations in Oxides. An Alternative Interpretation of the Structures of Silicates**

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The structures of ternary and quaternary silicates are reinterpreted on the basis of the Zintl-Klemm concept and the Pearson's generalised octet rule. The three-dimensional skeletons formed by the Si atoms can be interpreted as if the Si atoms were behaving as Zintl polyanions, adopting the structure of either main-group elements or Zintl polyanions showing the same connectivity. An example of this behaviour is the mineral pabstite BaSn[Si<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>]. In this compound, the Ba and Sn atoms donate 6 e<sup>-</sup> per formula unit to the three Si atoms, converting them into Ψ-S atoms, i.e. 2-connected atoms. Thus, the Si (Ψ-S) atoms adopt the structure of the triangular S<sub>3</sub> molecules. The O atoms are then located close to both, the hypotheticalal 2-electron bonds and the lone pairs, giving rise to a tetrahedral coordination. In some silicates, the Si atoms clearly show an amphoteric character so that some Si atoms act as donors (bases) adopting an octahedral coordination, whereas others behave as acceptors (acid), adopting a tetrahedral coordination. Although the octahedral coordination seems to be favoured by the application of pressure, the results reported here indicate that the coordination sphere of silicon is not a function of the assumed ionic radius of the Si<sup>4+</sup> cations but it depends on the nature of the other cations accompanying them in the structure.

**Keywords:** silicate structures, Zintl-Klemm concept, cation arrays

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**Uranyl Selenates: From Finite Clusters to Nanotubules**

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Structural chemistry of uranyl selenates with over than 50 compounds first characterized by the authors is described on the basis of graph theory adapted to the description of heteropolyhedral structures [1]. Structural motifs in uranyl selenates are based upon corner-sharing UO<sub>7</sub> pentagonal bipyramids and SeO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra. Structural diversity of these motifs range from finite clusters and chains to complex sheets and nanotubules [2, 3]. It is shown that most of the 0-D, 1-D and 2-D graphs corresponding to the uranyl selenate motifs can be considered as derivatives of highly regular {3.6.3.6} graph consisting of 3-connected white and 6-connected black vertices. Structural and geometrical isomerism induced by tetrahedra orientation and selective hydration of UO<sub>7</sub> polyhedra will be described. The model of nanotubule formation in uranyl selenate systems based upon the rolling of 2-D sheets is discussed. Self-assembly of organic amines governing by competitive hydrophobic/hydrophilic interactions and structure of organic/inorganic interfaces in uranyl selenates will be discussed.

[1] Krivovichev S.V., *Crystallogr. Rev.*, 2004, **10**, 185. [2] Krivovichev S.V., Kahlenberg V., Kaindl R., Mersdorf E., Tananaev I.G., Myasoedov B.F., *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2005, **44**, 1134. [3] Krivovichev S.V., Kahlenberg V., Tananaev I.G., Kaindl R., Mersdorf E., Myasoedov B.F., *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 2005, **127**, 1072.

**Keywords:** uranium compounds, structural motifs, nanochemistry

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**Molecule-Mineral Inner-Surface Interactions in Nanoporous Silicates**

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We have carried out single-crystal and powder Raman studies of zeolites, SiO<sub>2</sub>-clathrates and other silicate structure types with small nanopores (beryl, cordierite) to investigate the nature of inner-surface molecule-crystal interactions and the role of hydrogen bonding.