

Crystal Data: Monoclinic. *Point Group:* 2/m. Elongated crystals, to 1 cm, intergrown with halite.

Physical Properties: Hardness = n.d. D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = [1.65] Melts under its own vapor pressure at -0.1 °C, converting to halite.

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color:* Colorless to white.
Optical Class: Biaxial. *Orientation:* Extinction 35° from a prism face; length-slow. $\alpha = \text{n.d.}$
 $\beta = \text{n.d.}$ $\gamma = \text{n.d.}$ 2V(meas.) = n.d. *Anisotropism:* Moderately strong.

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $P2_1/c$ probable (synthetic at 105 K). $a = 6.3313(5)$
 $b = 10.1178(9)$ $c = 6.5029(6)$ $\beta = 114.407(7)^\circ$ $Z = 4$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Synthetic; taken at -5 °C.
2.98 (10), 2.67 (10), 2.52 (10), 3.82 (9), 2.24 (9), 3.87 (8), 2.88 (6)

Chemistry: Natural material has not been analyzed.

Occurrence: Formed from sea water or in bottom sediments of hypersaline lakes at near-freezing temperatures.

Association: Halite, gypsum.

Distribution: From Hallein, Salzburg, Austria. In Lake Bonney, Taylor Valley, Victoria Land, Antarctica.

Name: As a hydrate of *halite*.

References: (1) Palache, C., H. Berman, and C. Frondel (1951) Dana's system of mineralogy, (7th edition), v. II, 15. (2) Klewe, B. and B. Pedersen (1974) The crystal structure of sodium chloride dihydrate. *Acta Cryst.*, 30, 2363–2371. (3) Craig, J.R., R.D. Fortner, and B.L. Weand (1974) Halite and hydrohalite from Lake Bonney, Taylor Valley, Antarctica. *Geology*, 1, 389–390. (4) Craig, J.R., J.F. Light, B.C. Parker, and M.G. Mudrey, Jr. (1975) Identification of hydrohalite. *Antarctic J. U.S.*, 10, 178–179.