Building scheme for MER



1. Periodic Building Unit – 2. Connection mode – 3. Projections of the unit cell content 4. Channels and/or cages – 5. Supplementary information

1. Periodic Building Unit:

Tetragonal **MER** can be built using the crankshaft chain (bold in Fig.1 (left)) running parallel to *c*. The repeat distance along a crankshaft chain varies between 8.4-9.9 Å. The repeat unit consists of 4 T atoms. A one-dimensional Periodic Building Unit (PerBU) is obtained when four crankshaft chains are connected in such a way that a channel with an 8-ring aperture is formed. The channel wall consists of 4- and 8-rings. The repeat unit of the PerBU consists of a 4-fold (1,2,5,6)-connected double 8-ring (D8R) (bold in Fig.1 (right)). The PerBU is topologically equivalent to the channel in **ACO**. [The 4-fold connection in the D8R in **APC**, **APD** and **GIS** is different]



Figure 1. PerBU constructed from four crankshaft chains (left) and PerBU constructed from 4-fold connected D8Rs (right).

2. Connection mode:

Neighboring PerBUs, related by a shift of $\frac{1}{2}(\pm a \pm b \pm c)$, are connected through double crankshaft chains that form *mer* cavities [see Alternative description].



Figure 2. Connection mode viewed along c. For clarity, only 1½ repeat units of the PerBUs along c are drawn. One double crankshaft chain, consisting of 2-fold (1,2)-connected D4Rs, is indicated in bold (see Alternative description).

3. Projections of the unit cell content:



4. Channels and/or cages:

There are two types of channel intersections in tetragonal **MER**: the cavity equal to the repeat unit of the PerBU (see Fig.1 (right)) and the *mer* cavity. There are also two types of 8-ring channels parallel to *c*. The first type equals the PerBU and is topologically equivalent to the channel in **ACO**. The PerBU and the *mer* cavity are shown in Figure 4 together with their **pore descriptor**. The second type of 8-ring channels parallel to *c* is obtained when *mer* cavities are connected through double 8-rings. The linkage of channel and cavities is illustrated in Figure 5. Interconnecting 8-ring channels are parallel to [100], [010] and [001].



mer cavity: {3[4¹²8⁶] <100> (8-ring), [001] (8-ring)}

Figure 4. PerBU in **MER** (top) and *mer* cavity (bottom) viewed along *c* (left) and along *a* (or *b*) (right). [Figure 5 is on next page]



Figure 5. Linkage of channel and *mer* cavities (one in black for clarity) through (double) 8-rings viewed along *b* (or *a*) (left) and along *c* (right) illustrating the 8-ring channels along <010> and the second type of 8-ring channels parallel to *c*. The Figure also illustrates that **MER** can as well be constructed using double 8-rings (See also Figure 2).

5. Supplementary information:

Other framework types containing crankshaft chains

In several framework types at least one of the unit cell dimensions is between 8.4 and 9.9 Å. In many cases this indicates the presence of crankshaft chains.

In the **INTRO**-pages links are given to detailed descriptions of these framework types (choose: **Crankshaft chains**). There is also a link provided to a summary of the Periodic Building Units used in the building schemes of these framework types (choose: **Appendix**; **Figure 3**).

Alternative description of MER using (modified) double 4-rings (D4Rs)

Several framework types, like **MER**, can be built using double crankshaft chains of the feldspar type consisting of 2-fold (1,2)-connected D4Rs (see Figure 2).

In the **INTRO**-pages links are given to descriptions of other framework types containing (modified) D4Rs (choose: **Double 4-rings**). There is also a link provided to a summary of the Periodic Building Units used in the building schemes of these framework types (choose: **Appendix**; **Figure 5**).

Alternative description of MER using (modified) cavities

Several framework types, like **MER**, can be built using (modified) cavities (see Figure 5). In the **INTRO**-pages links are given to a detailed description of a sub-set of framework types that contain (modified) cavities (choose: **Cages**). There is also a link provided to a summary of the PerBUs used in the building schemes of these framework types (choose: **Appendix**; **Figure 11**).