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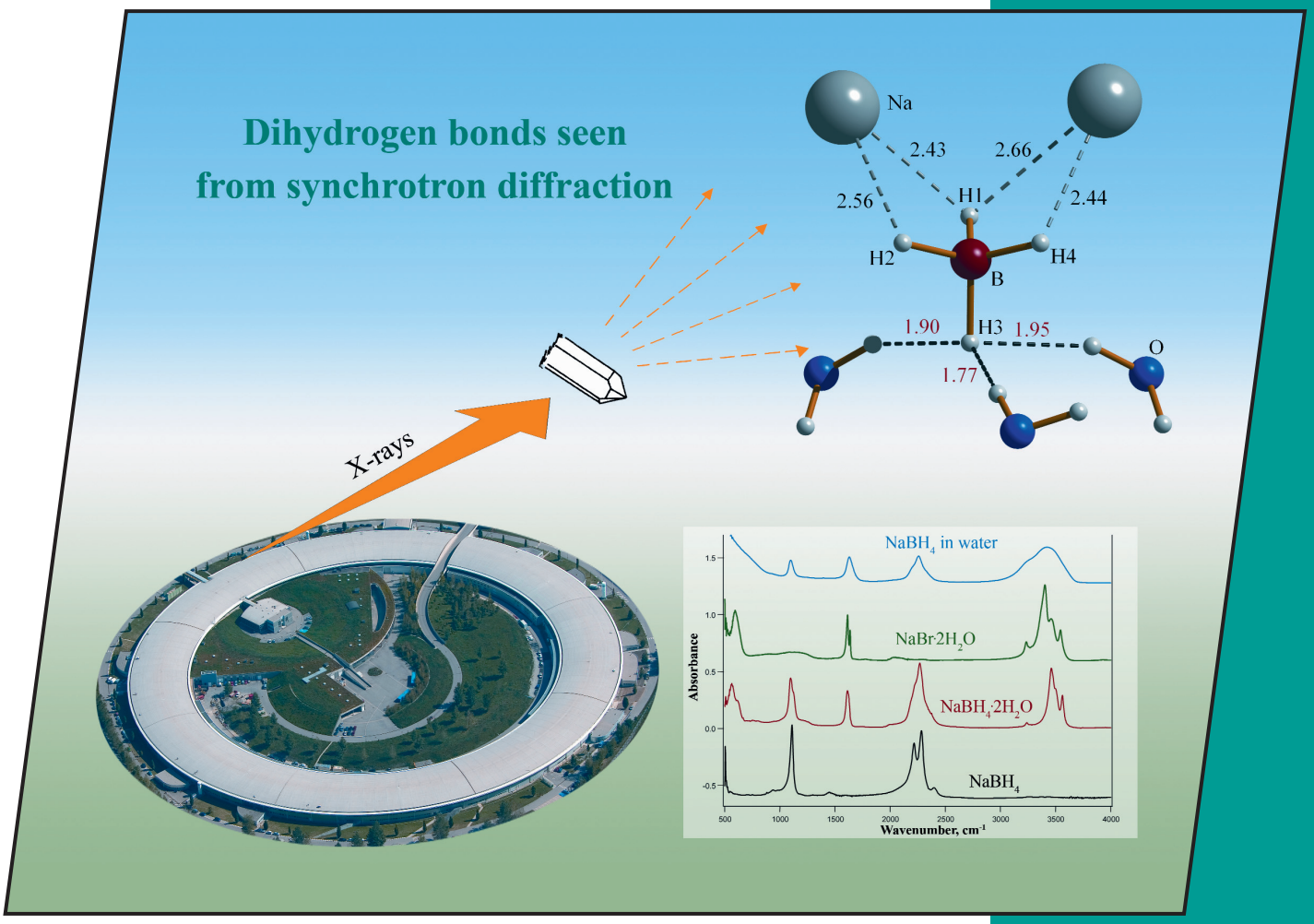

Cover Picture

Yaroslav Filinchuk and Hans Hagemann

Structure and Properties of $NaBH_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ and $NaBH_4$

Microreview

Keith S. Murray

Polynuclear Iron(II), Iron(III) and Cobalt(II) Spin-Crossover Compounds

WILEY-VCH

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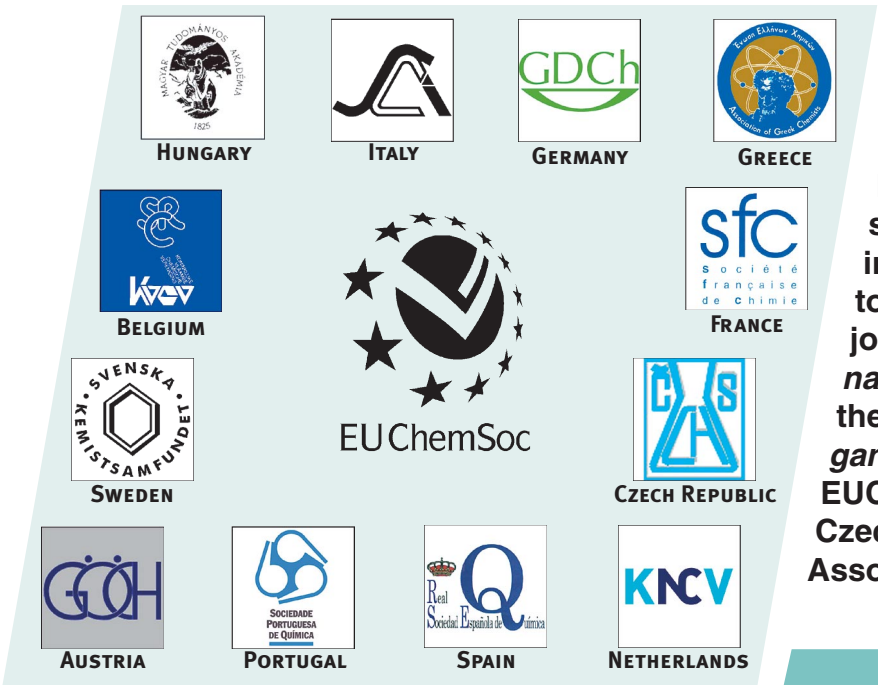

The EUChemSoc Societies have taken the significant step into the future by merging their traditional journals, to form two leading chemistry journals, the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry* and the *European Journal of Organic Chemistry.* Three further EUChemSoc Societies (Austria, Czech Republic and Sweden) are Associates of the two journals.

COVER PICTURE

The cover picture shows the crystal structure of sodium borohydride dihydrate, $NaBH_4{\cdot}2H_2O$, determined from synchrotron diffraction on a single crystal. The European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF), shown in the lower left corner, provided the source of X-rays. The BH_4^- anion has a nearly ideal tetrahedral geometry. By applying the systematic correction to the positions of hydrogen atoms seen by X-rays, the geometry of the dihydrogen $O-H^{\delta+}\cdots{}^{\delta-}H-B$ bonding was accurately characterized. The structure of anhydrous $NaBH_4$ was also investigated by X-ray diffraction on a single crystal. Vibrational properties of $NaBH_4{\cdot}2H_2O$ and related substances were studied by IR and Raman spectroscopy. Details are discussed in the article by Y. Filinchuk and H. Hagemann on p. 3127ff.