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COVER PICTURE

The cover picture shows the characteristic crystal form of elemental bismuth in the background and a perspective view of the crystal structure $Bi(Bi_9)[NbCl_6]_3$ containing three-capped trigonal prismatic Bi_9^{5+} clusters. The Bi^+ cations in the channels made up of the octahedral halometalate anions are disordered and can be treated in different ways in the crystallographic description. A remarkable feature of the compound is the paramagnetic behaviour, which shows the presence of Nb in the less common oxidation state +IV. Details are discussed in the article by J. Beck and T. Hilbert on p. 2019ff.

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Contents

Keywords: Crystal engineering / Non-covalent interactions / Hydrogen bonds / Molecular tectonics / Silver compounds