

BIREFRINGENCE PROPERTIES  
OF UNIAXIALLY COMPRESSED  $K_2SO_4$  CRYSTALS

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S u m m a r y

The influence of the uniaxial mechanical pressure  $\sigma_m \leq 200$  bar on the temperature dependence of the birefringence  $\Delta n_i$  in  $K_2SO_4$  crystals in an interval of 300–1000 K has been studied. The uniaxial pressure was found to affect only the magnitude but not the behavior of  $d\Delta n_i/dT$ . A significant baric shift of the ferroelastic phase transition point toward higher (for  $\sigma_x$ ) and lower (for  $\sigma_y$  and  $\sigma_z$  pressures) temperatures was observed, as well as a baric shift of the temperature interval, where the intermediate phase exists, near the phase transition point.