Introduction: Framework structures in which the tenants are transition elements, represents a growing area of novel molecular sieves. In an attempt to synthesize molybdnumniobate framework material by hydrothermal methods, single crystals of a novel material consisting of molybdnumniobate clusters, charge balanced by hydrogen-bonded tripropylamine (TPA) and water were obtained. The synchrotron X-ray diffraction studies revealed that the compound crystallizes in the orthorhombic space group Pccn, with cell dimensions $a = 21.240(3)$, $b = 21.830(4)$, $c = 16.739(3)$, $V = 7761(3)$, $R = 0.0475$, $R_w = 0.14659$ [6943 observed reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$]. Each cluster consists of three Nb octahedra and four Mo tetrahedra. Two Nb octahedra share an edge and one of the corners of this shared edge is connected to a Mo tetrahedron, which is corner connected to the third Nb octahedron. The second Mo tetrahedron shares two of its corners with the apices of edge sharing Nb octahedra and the third corner with the third Nb octahedron. Finally two more Mo tetrahedra are corner linked to this edge sharing Nb unit, with one of them sharing a corner with the third Nb octahedra. These clusters are held together by charge compensating TPA, organic amines and water molecules through weak hydrogen bonds (Figure 1).

Acknowledgments: The authors thank the NSF for financial support (Grant DMR 97-13375). Research carried out in part at the NSLS at BNL is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Division of Materials Sciences and Division of Chemical Sciences, Office of Basic Energy Sciences (Grant DE-FG02-86ER45231 for the SUNY X3A beamline).