Metals and their Compounds Lecture 4.1

Simple ionic solids

Metals have atoms of same size, so packing of metals atoms is easiest to understand. Ionic solids like Na^+Cl^- (common salt) are also based on same *principles*, but in general the positive *cations* are smaller than the negative *anions*.

Concept of holes: A close packed lattice of like sized spheres has two types of holes:

Tetrahedral holes

Octahedral holes



