

O55	0.571 (1)	0.075 (2)	0.818 (3)	0.07 (1)
O56	0.427 (2)	0.069 (2)	0.781 (3)	0.08 (1)
O57	0.413 (2)	0.121 (3)	0.466 (4)	0.12 (2)
O58	0.506 (2)	0.086 (2)	1.045 (4)	0.11 (2)
O59	0.512 (2)	0.037 (3)	0.626 (5)	0.16 (2)
O60	0.496 (2)	0.057 (2)	0.850 (4)	0.01 (1)
O61	0.422 (2)	0.036 (3)	0.565 (5)	0.05 (2)
O62	0.451 (2)	0.131 (3)	0.342 (5)	0.03 (1)

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Table 2. Bond lengths (Å)

W0—O1	1.69 (2)	W6—O30	1.94 (2)
W0—O4	1.89 (2)	W6—O27	2.01 (1)
W0—O5	1.92 (2)	W6—O32	2.01 (2)
W0—O3	1.95 (2)	W6—O31	2.29 (2)
W0—O2	1.96 (2)	W7—O24	1.76 (2)
W0—O14	2.23 (2)	W7—O20	1.76 (2)
W1—O6	1.69 (2)	W7—O28	1.90 (2)
W1—O15	1.75 (2)	W7—O27	1.91 (2)
W1—O2	1.93 (2)	W7—O33	1.98 (2)
W1—O10	1.93 (2)	W7—O31	2.32 (1)
W1—O13	1.97 (2)	W8—O21	1.76 (2)
W1—O14	2.36 (2)	W8—O25	1.77 (2)
W2—O7	1.74 (2)	W8—O28	1.94 (2)
W2—O16	1.77 (2)	W8—O29	2.00 (2)
W2—O11	1.96 (2)	W8—O34	2.06 (2)
W2—O3	1.98 (2)	W8—O31	2.35 (2)
W2—O10	1.99 (2)	W9—O26	1.71 (2)
W2—O14	2.28 (2)	W9—O22	1.75 (2)
W3—O8	1.74 (2)	W9—O29	1.88 (2)
W3—O17	1.75 (2)	W9—O30	1.90 (2)
W3—O11	1.93 (2)	W9—O35	1.93 (2)
W3—O4	1.97 (2)	W9—O31	2.31 (1)
W3—O12	1.97 (1)	Sm—O21	2.42 (2)
W3—O14	2.28 (2)	Sm—O16	2.44 (2)
W4—O9	1.74 (2)	Sm—O22	2.45 (2)
W4—O18	1.76 (2)	Sm—O15	2.46 (2)
W4—O13	1.90 (2)	Sm—O17	2.48 (2)
W4—O12	1.98 (1)	Sm—O18	2.49 (2)
W4—O5	2.00 (2)	Sm—O20	2.49 (2)
W4—O14	2.32 (2)	Sm—O19	2.52 (2)
W5—O36	1.72 (2)	Sm—W1	3.888 (2)
W5—O32	1.91 (2)	Sm—W2	3.855 (2)
W5—O33	1.93 (2)	Sm—W3	3.874 (2)
W5—O35	1.95 (2)	Sm—W4	3.872 (2)
W5—O34	1.96 (2)	Sm—W6	3.837 (2)
W5—O31	2.32 (2)	Sm—W7	3.840 (2)
W6—O19	1.72 (2)	Sm—W8	3.820 (2)
W6—O23	1.75 (2)	Sm—W9	3.820 (2)

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 71170 (30 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: AS1049]

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## Structure of $K_3Na_4H_2[GdW_{10}O_{36}] \cdot 21H_2O$

TOSHIHIRO YAMASE AND TOMOJI OZEKI

Research Laboratory of Resources Utilization,  
 Tokyo Institute of Technology, 4259 Nagatsuta,  
 Midori-ku, Yokohoma 227, Japan

(Received 27 January 1993; accepted 30 March 1993)

## Abstract

Tripotassium tetrasodium dihydrogen decatungstogadolinate heptadecosahydrate,  $K_3Na_4H_2[GdW_{10}O_{36}] \cdot 21H_2O$ , consists of a decatungstogadolinate anion, three eight-nine coordinated  $K^+$  cations, four octahedrally coordinated  $Na^+$  cations, and water molecules of crystallization. The decatungstogadolinate anion is comprised of two  $[W_5O_{18}]^{6-}$  units which chelate to a central  $Gd^{3+}$  cation to give a tetragonal antiprismatic coordination. The  $Gd—O$  distances and  $W—O$  distances in the decatungstogadolinate anion are 2.37 (2)-2.49 (2) and 1.71 (2)-2.36 (3) Å, respectively.

## Comment

The decatungstogadolinate anion,  $[GdW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$ , is unusual in that it does not show photoluminescence from the  $Gd^{3+}$  centre but shows luminescence from the polyoxotungstate framework. In contrast, other decatungstate anions of trivalent lanthanoid elements, of general formula  $[LnW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  where  $Ln = Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Tb, Dy$  and  $Ho$ , show a luminescence associated with the lanthanoid atom's  $f-f$  transitions upon irradiation with UV light. This irradiation is into bands associated with, essentially, transitions within the polyoxotungstate framework (Stillman & Thomson, 1976; Blasse, Dirksen & Zonnevijlle, 1981). This unusual pattern suggests that the uniqueness of the  $[GdW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  anion may arise because it has a different crystal structure from those of the other anions. In the course of our crystallographic investigations on photoluminescent decatungstolanthanoate complexes, the tripotassium tetrasodium salts of the decatungstoterbate and decatungstosamarate anions (Ozeki,

Takahashi & Yamase, 1992; Ozeki & Yamase, 1993), nonasodium decatungstoeuropate (Sugeta & Yamase, 1993) and sodium tetrastrontium decatungstoeuropate (Yamase, Ozeki & Ueda, 1993) were all found to contain decatungstolanthanoate anions isostructural with that in the non-luminescent analogue, the tetravalent cerium complex  $[Ce^{IV}W_{10}O_{36}]^{8-}$  (Iball, Low & Weakley, 1974). The key to the above hypothesis for the uniqueness of the gadolinium compound is its crystal structure, which is reported here.

The pH of a 20 ml aqueous solution containing 8.3 g of  $Na_2WO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$  was brought to 7.3 by adding  $CH_3COOH$ . 1.15 g of  $GdNO_3 \cdot 4H_2O$  dissolved in 2 ml  $H_2O$  and 0.24 g of  $KCl$  dissolved in 5 ml  $H_2O$  were then added and the solution was kept at 278 K. Crystals were obtained after a week.

Fig. 1 shows a packing diagram of the crystal viewed along the  $c^*$  axis. The crystal is almost isomorphous with  $K_3Na_4H_2[TbW_{10}O_{36}] \cdot 20H_2O$  (Ozeki, Takahashi & Yamase, 1992) and  $K_3Na_4H_2[SmW_{10}O_{36}] \cdot 22H_2O$  (Ozeki & Yamase, 1993). The only significant difference lies in a few of the water O atoms, which show large thermal displacement parameters and are apparently disordered.

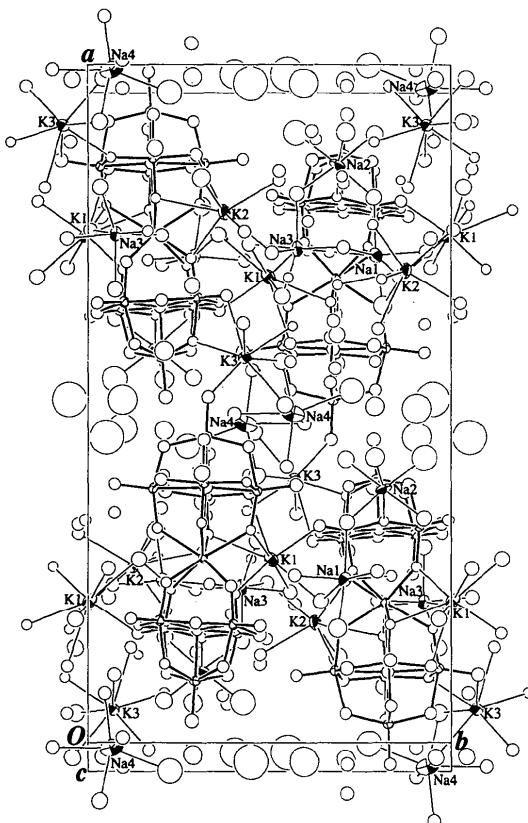


Fig. 1. Packing diagram of the unit cell viewed along the  $c^*$  axis. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability levels. The K and Na atoms are shown as ellipsoids with shaded octants.

Fig. 2 shows the structure of the  $[GdW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  anion together with two proximate  $K^+$  cations. The  $[GdW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  anion comprises a central  $Gd^{3+}$  cation and two  $[W_5O_{18}]^{6-}$  units, each of which may be regarded as derived by the removal of a  $WO_4^{4-}$  group from a  $[W_6O_{19}]^{2-}$  anion. It has a square array of O atoms at the lacunary site. Square arrays of O atoms from two  $[W_5O_{18}]^{6-}$  moieties face one another, rotated relative to each other by 45° to give a square antiprism, at the centre of which is located the  $Gd^{3+}$  ion. Each W atom is in a distorted octahedral coordination. This structure is essentially identical to those of the  $[SmW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  and  $[TbW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  anions. The Gd—O distances vary from 2.37 (2) to 2.49 (2) Å [average 2.43 (4) Å]. For comparison, the Sm—O and Tb—O distances in the corresponding anions are 2.42 (2)–2.52 (2) Å [average 2.47 (3) Å] and 2.40 (1)–2.44 (1) Å [average 2.42 (2) Å], respectively. The Gd—W distances are 3.812 (2)–3.875 (2) Å [average 3.84 (2) Å], compared with Sm—W and Tb—W distances of 3.820 (2)–3.889 (2) Å [average 3.85 (2) Å] and 3.807 (2)–3.866 (2) Å [average 3.83 (2) Å], respectively. The differences in the interatomic distances correlate with the change in ionic radius of the central lanthanoid resulting from the lanthanoid contraction, although the differences are not significant compared with their e.s.d.'s. In the present study the W—O distances *trans* to the Gd—O bonds were found to be 1.73 (2)–1.80 (2) Å [average 1.78 (2) Å]. This distance is shorter

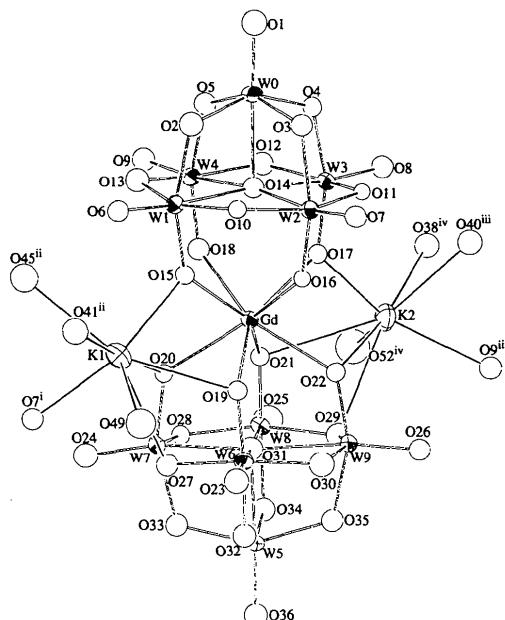


Fig. 2. ORTEP II (Johnson, 1976) drawing of the  $[GdW_{10}O_{36}]^{9-}$  anion and the coordination spheres of  $K^+$  cations in its proximity. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability levels. Symmetry codes: (i)  $\frac{3}{4} - x, -\frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{3}{2} - z$ ; (ii)  $1 - x, -y, 1 - z$ ; (iii)  $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ ; (iv)  $\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -\frac{1}{2} + z$ .

than the corresponding value in the  $Tb^{3+}$  species [average 1.79 (2) Å] and longer than that of the  $Sm^{3+}$  compound [average 1.75 (1) Å]. These differences originate in the *trans* influence of the systematic changes in the  $Ln^{3+}$ —O distance in the three isomorphous crystals. We found W—O distances for the terminal O atom to be 1.71 (2)–1.80 (2) Å [average 1.76 (2) Å]. The W—O distances *trans* to the terminal W—O bond are 2.24 (2)–2.36 (3) Å [average 2.31 (4) Å] and the W—O distances for O atoms bridging two W atoms are 1.89 (3)–2.03(2) Å [average 1.96 (4) Å]. These distances show no systematic differences in the three isomorphous crystals.

## Experimental

### Crystal data

$K_3Na_4H_2[GdW_{10}O_{36}] \cdot 21H_2O$	$D_x = 3.83 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 3161.3$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic	$\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ \AA}$
$P2_1/n$	Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$a = 29.920 (5) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 10.0\text{--}12.5^\circ$
$b = 16.103 (5) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 22.92 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 11.449 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 298.15 \text{ K}$
$\beta = 96.36 (1)^\circ$	Pillar
$V = 5482 (4) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.25 \times 0.1 \times 0.1 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 4$	Colourless

### Data collection

Rigaku AFC-5S diffractometer	6514 observed reflections
$\omega/2\theta$ scans	[ $I > 3\sigma(I)$ ]
Absorption correction:	$\theta_{\max} = 27.5^\circ$
empirical via $\psi$ scans	$h = -38 \rightarrow 38$
(North, Phillips & Mathews, 1968)	$k = 0 \rightarrow 20$
$T_{\min} = 0.7582$ , $T_{\max} = 1.0000$	$l = 0 \rightarrow 14$
13954 measured reflections	3 standard reflections monitored every 100 reflections
13036 independent reflections	intensity variation: –3.1%

### Refinement

Refinement on $F$	Weighting scheme based on measured e.s.d.'s
Final $R = 0.0585$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.875$
$wR = 0.0519$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 2.79 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$S = 2.152$	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -3.18 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
6512 reflections	Atomic scattering factors from <i>International Tables for X-ray Crystallography</i> (1974, Vol. IV)
391 parameters	H-atom parameters not determined

Coordinates for Tb and W atoms in the isomorphous  $K_3Na_4H_2[TbW_{10}O_{36}] \cdot 20H_2O$  crystal were used as the initial coordinates for Gd and W, respectively.

Data collection: *RCRYSTAN85* (Rigaku Corporation, 1985). Data reduction: *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1989). Program(s) used to refine structure: *TEXSAN LS*. Molecular graphics: *ORTEP II* (Johnson, 1976).

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic thermal parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{eq}}$
W0	0.58803 (5)	0.2050 (1)	0.4588 (1)	0.0252
W1	0.66490 (5)	0.08776 (9)	0.6178 (1)	0.0220
W2	0.67229 (5)	0.28896 (9)	0.6349 (1)	0.0211
W3	0.67210 (5)	0.30176 (9)	0.3514 (1)	0.0211
W4	0.66540 (5)	0.09982 (9)	0.3343 (1)	0.0216
W5	0.95575 (4)	0.1734 (1)	0.5816 (1)	0.0224
W6	0.87282 (5)	0.17274 (9)	0.7528 (1)	0.0209
W7	0.87302 (5)	0.03392 (9)	0.5439 (1)	0.0204
W8	0.87665 (4)	0.1811 (1)	0.3496 (1)	0.0208
W9	0.87705 (5)	0.32090 (9)	0.5585 (1)	0.0212
Gd	0.77270 (5)	0.1832 (1)	0.5143 (1)	0.0183
K1	0.7800 (3)	–0.0044 (6)	0.7405 (8)	0.0392
K2	0.7944 (3)	0.3740 (5)	0.2870 (8)	0.0388
K3	0.9222 (3)	–0.0684 (5)	0.2928 (8)	0.0370
Na1	0.2591 (5)	0.2078 (9)	0.480 (1)	0.0352
Na2	0.6224 (5)	0.186 (1)	0.911 (1)	0.0524
Na3	0.7514 (5)	0.0770 (9)	0.025 (1)	0.0354
Na4	0.9976 (6)	0.065 (1)	0.125 (1)	0.0674
O1	0.5293 (8)	0.214 (2)	0.446 (2)	0.037 (7)
O2	0.6014 (8)	0.117 (2)	0.574 (2)	0.034 (7)
O3	0.6046 (8)	0.282 (1)	0.591 (2)	0.027 (6)
O4	0.6088 (7)	0.288 (1)	0.362 (2)	0.022 (5)
O5	0.6040 (8)	0.128 (1)	0.345 (2)	0.028 (6)
O6	0.6602 (8)	0.007 (1)	0.717 (2)	0.027 (6)
O7	0.6701 (8)	0.362 (1)	0.750 (2)	0.028 (6)
O8	0.6708 (8)	0.381 (1)	0.245 (2)	0.028 (6)
O9	0.6588 (8)	0.026 (1)	0.219 (2)	0.030 (6)
O10	0.6624 (7)	0.185 (1)	0.721 (2)	0.019 (5)
O11	0.6704 (7)	0.361 (1)	0.496 (2)	0.016 (5)
O12	0.6641 (8)	0.203 (2)	0.245 (2)	0.030 (6)
O13	0.6554 (8)	0.026 (2)	0.466 (2)	0.033 (6)
O14	0.6641 (7)	0.199 (1)	0.484 (2)	0.026 (6)
O15	0.7248 (7)	0.096 (1)	0.617 (2)	0.021 (5)
O16	0.7307 (7)	0.270 (1)	0.629 (2)	0.016 (5)
O17	0.7310 (7)	0.284 (1)	0.383 (2)	0.022 (5)
O18	0.7249 (8)	0.106 (1)	0.361 (2)	0.028 (6)
O19	0.8155 (7)	0.168 (1)	0.712 (2)	0.022 (5)
O20	0.8144 (7)	0.051 (1)	0.523 (2)	0.019 (5)
O21	0.8175 (7)	0.187 (1)	0.354 (2)	0.021 (5)
O22	0.8177 (7)	0.308 (1)	0.542 (2)	0.021 (5)
O23	0.8763 (8)	0.168 (2)	0.910 (2)	0.035 (6)
O24	0.8811 (9)	–0.073 (2)	0.530 (2)	0.037 (7)
O25	0.8846 (9)	0.186 (2)	0.198 (2)	0.054 (8)
O26	0.8841 (8)	0.426 (1)	0.566 (2)	0.028 (6)
O27	0.8767 (8)	0.056 (1)	0.714 (2)	0.029 (6)
O28	0.8792 (7)	0.063 (1)	0.381 (2)	0.020 (5)
O29	0.8835 (8)	0.298 (2)	0.393 (2)	0.032 (6)
O30	0.8802 (8)	0.287 (2)	0.725 (2)	0.039 (7)
O31	0.8786 (8)	0.175 (2)	0.555 (2)	0.033 (6)
O32	0.9361 (8)	0.166 (2)	0.741 (2)	0.031 (6)
O33	0.9397 (8)	0.058 (1)	0.567 (2)	0.029 (6)
O34	0.9429 (7)	0.181 (2)	0.408 (2)	0.032 (6)
O35	0.9401 (8)	0.291 (1)	0.578 (2)	0.028 (6)
O36	1.0148 (8)	0.169 (2)	0.600 (2)	0.032 (6)
O37	0.7492 (7)	0.165 (1)	0.871 (2)	0.026 (6)
O38	0.2559 (8)	0.069 (2)	0.546 (2)	0.035 (7)
O39	0.7545 (8)	0.204 (2)	0.150 (2)	0.036 (6)
O40	0.7654 (8)	0.006 (2)	0.215 (2)	0.037 (7)
O41	0.2590 (9)	0.057 (2)	0.057 (2)	0.040 (7)
O42	0.0769 (8)	0.047 (2)	0.124 (2)	0.036 (7)
O43	0.0029 (9)	0.097 (2)	0.895 (2)	0.037 (7)
O44	0.669 (1)	0.075 (2)	0.991 (3)	0.048 (8)
O45	0.2836 (9)	0.141 (2)	0.317 (2)	0.047 (8)
O46	0.993 (1)	0.042 (2)	0.326 (3)	0.054 (9)
O47	0.920 (1)	0.033 (2)	0.102 (2)	0.055 (9)
O48	0.175 (1)	0.213 (2)	0.492 (2)	0.049 (8)
O49	0.818 (1)	0.034 (2)	0.976 (2)	0.053 (8)
O50	0.074 (1)	0.210 (2)	0.318 (2)	0.058 (9)
O51	0.582 (1)	0.210 (2)	0.084 (3)	0.07 (1)
O52	0.336 (1)	0.188 (2)	0.574 (2)	0.07 (1)
O53	0.963 (1)	0.226 (3)	0.091 (4)	0.12 (2)

O54	0.496 (1)	0.210 (2)	0.820 (3)	0.07 (1)
O55	0.508 (2)	0.095 (3)	1.029 (5)	0.17 (2)
O56	0.573 (2)	0.073 (3)	0.838 (4)	0.13 (2)
O57	0.486 (2)	0.051 (4)	0.833 (5)	0.24 (3)

Table 2. Bond lengths (Å)

W0—O1	1.75 (2)	W5—O34	1.98 (2)
W0—O4	1.89 (2)	W5—O31	2.30 (2)
W0—O5	1.89 (2)	W6—O19	1.73 (2)
W0—O2	1.95 (2)	W6—O23	1.80 (2)
W0—O3	1.97 (2)	W6—O30	1.89 (3)
W0—O14	2.26 (2)	W6—O32	1.92 (2)
W1—O6	1.74 (2)	W6—O27	1.93 (2)
W1—O15	1.80 (2)	W6—O31	2.29 (2)
W1—O2	1.97 (2)	W7—O24	1.76 (2)
W1—O10	1.97 (2)	W7—O20	1.77 (2)
W1—O13	2.00 (2)	W7—O28	1.95 (2)
W1—O14	2.35 (2)	W7—O27	1.97 (2)
W2—O7	1.77 (2)	W7—O33	2.02 (2)
W2—O16	1.78 (2)	W7—O31	2.27 (3)
W2—O11	1.97 (2)	W8—O25	1.77 (3)
W2—O10	1.98 (2)	W8—O21	1.78 (2)
W2—O3	2.03 (2)	W8—O28	1.94 (2)
W2—O14	2.24 (2)	W8—O29	1.95 (3)
W3—O8	1.77 (2)	W8—O34	2.02 (2)
W3—O17	1.78 (2)	W8—O31	2.35 (2)
W3—O11	1.91 (2)	W9—O26	1.71 (2)
W3—O4	1.92 (2)	W9—O22	1.78 (2)
W3—O12	2.00 (2)	W9—O35	1.94 (2)
W3—O14	2.28 (2)	W9—O29	1.96 (2)
W4—O9	1.77 (2)	W9—O30	1.98 (2)
W4—O18	1.78 (2)	W9—O31	2.36 (3)
W4—O5	1.91 (2)	Gd—O16	2.37 (2)
W4—O12	1.95 (2)	Gd—O21	2.39 (2)
W4—O13	1.97 (2)	Gd—O15	2.41 (2)
W4—O14	2.35 (2)	Gd—O22	2.42 (2)
W5—O36	1.76 (2)	Gd—O17	2.45 (2)
W5—O33	1.93 (2)	Gd—O20	2.47 (2)
W5—O35	1.95 (2)	Gd—O18	2.47 (2)
W5—O32	1.98 (2)	Gd—O19	2.49 (2)

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 71225 (31 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: AS1055]

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## Structure of $\text{La}_5\text{Mo}_{32}\text{O}_{54}$ Containing *trans*-Bicapped $\text{Mo}_8$ Octahedral Clusters and Tricluster $\text{Mo}_7\text{Mo}_{10}\text{Mo}_7$ Chain Fragments

P. GALL, L. TOUPET† AND P. GOUGEON

Université de Rennes I, Laboratoire de Chimie du Solide et Inorganique Moléculaire,  
 URA CNRS n° 1495, Avenue du Général Leclerc,  
 35042 Rennes CEDEX, France

(Received 26 October 1992; accepted 10 February 1993)

### Abstract

The crystal structure of  $\text{La}_5\text{Mo}_{32}\text{O}_{54}$  contains the new *trans*-face bicapped  $\text{Mo}_8$  cluster and a novel  $\text{Mo}_{24}$  tricluster chain fragment composed of one  $\text{Mo}_{10}$  and two  $\text{Mo}_7$  clusters. The  $\text{Mo}_8$  and  $\text{Mo}_{24}$  clusters are connected by bridging O atoms and are arranged in layers parallel to the *ac* plane. The three crystallographically distinct  $\text{La}^{3+}$  ions have coordination numbers of 11 or 12 with an environment in each case based on a distorted cubo-octahedron.

### Comment

The present work constitutes part of our program in search of new reduced molybdenum oxides in combination with the rare-earth elements. Up to now, this study has led to the synthesis of six new structure types by solid-state reaction:  $\text{La}_4\text{Mo}_2\text{O}_{11}$  (Gall & Gougeon, 1992) including isolated  $\text{Mo}_2$  dimers,  $R\text{Mo}_8\text{O}_{14}$  ( $R = \text{La}, \text{Ce}, \text{Pr}, \text{Nd}, \text{Sm}$ ) (Leligny, Ledesert, Labbe, Raveau & McCarroll, 1990; Gougeon & McCarley, 1991) comprising  $\text{Mo}_8$  clusters,  $R_{16}\text{Mo}_{21}\text{O}_{56}$  ( $R = \text{La}, \text{Ce}, \text{Pr}, \text{Nd}$ ) (Gall & Gougeon, 1993) showing isolated  $\text{Mo}_{10}$  clusters,  $R\text{Mo}_5\text{O}_8$  ( $R = \text{La}, \text{Ce}, \text{Pr}, \text{Nd}, \text{Sm}, \text{Eu}, \text{Gd}$ ) (Hibble, Cheetham, Bogle, Wakerley & Cox, 1988; Gougeon, Gall & Sergent, 1991; Gall, 1990) containing chains of biotahedral  $\text{Mo}_{10}$  clusters,  $R_4\text{Mo}_4\text{O}_{11}$  ( $R = \text{Nd}, \text{Sm}, \text{Eu}, \text{Gd}, \text{Tb}, \text{Dy}, \text{Ho}, \text{Er}, \text{Tm}, \text{Yb}, \text{Lu}, \text{Y}$ ) (Gougeon, Gall & McCarley, 1991a) characterized by infinite chains of *trans*-edge-shared  $\text{Mo}_6$  octahedra, and  $R_4\text{Mo}_{18}\text{O}_{32}$  ( $R = \text{Nd}, \text{Sm}, \text{Gd}, \text{Tb}, \text{Dy}, \text{Ho}, \text{Er}, \text{Tm}, \text{Yb}, \text{Lu}, \text{Y}$ ) (Gougeon, Gall & McCarley, 1991b) which contains three kinds of infinite Mo chains, *i.e.* linear chains with alternate short and long Mo–Mo distances, chains of *trans*-edge-shared rhomboidal  $\text{Mo}_4$  clusters and chains of *trans*-edge-shared octahedral  $\text{Mo}_6$  clusters. We

† Groupe Matière Condensée et Matériaux, URA CNRS n° 804, Rennes, France.