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K₂WSe₄

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Abstract

The crystal structure of dipotassium tungsten tetraselenide is based on isolated, slightly distorted WSe₄ tetrahedra joined *via* K⁺ ions. The compound is isotopic with the previously reported Rb and Cs analogues and crystallizes in the β -K₂SO₄ structure type.

Comment

Ternary alkali metal tungsten chalcogenides A₂WQ₄ (A = Rb, Cs, NH₄⁺; Q = S, Se) have been prepared

using classical solution chemistry (Müller & Sievert, 1974; Müller, Diemann & Heidborn, 1970). The crystal structures of these compounds were reported about 20 years ago. It is interesting to note that these preparation methods did not lead to the successful synthesis of the potassium selenide. During our research on the preparation of new tungsten chalcogenides using the so-called 'reactive flux' method (Sunshine, Kang & Ibers, 1987; Kanatzidis & Sutorik, 1995), the previously unknown ternary tungsten selenide K₂WSe₄ was obtained. It is most likely that conventional preparation methods, either in aqueous solution or at high temperatures, are destined to favour the thermodynamically more stable binary compounds (Kanatzidis, 1990).

The structure of K₂WSe₄ consists of slightly distorted WSe₄²⁻ tetrahedra located on crystallographic mirror planes, with W—Se bond lengths ranging from 2.3050 (7) to 2.3266 (9) Å and Se—W—Se angles between 107.16 (4) and 111.79 (4)°. These data are within the range reported for other ternary tungsten tetraselenides (Müller, Krebs & Beyer, 1968). The K⁺ ions are coordinated by eight and nine Se centres with K—Se distances between 3.263 (2) and 3.722 (3) Å (Fig. 1). The coordination sphere of K1 (CN = 9) is of

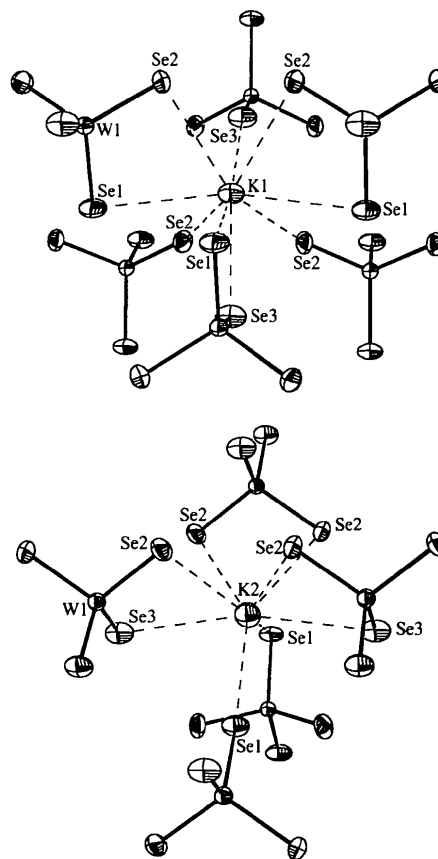


Fig. 1. The coordination spheres of K1 and K2 in K₂WSe₄. Displacement ellipsoids are plotted at the 50% probability level.

irregular shape whereas K2 (CN = 8) is located within a distorted bis-disphenoid.

The K₂Se₈ polyhedra share edges with three WSe₄²⁻ tetrahedra and have common corners with two WSe₄²⁻ units. The K1Se₉ polyhedra are connected to three WSe₄²⁻ tetrahedra *via* edges and to three others *via* corners. As expected, the lattice parameters are smaller than those reported for the analogous Rb and Cs compounds (Table 3) (Müller & Sievert, 1974).

Experimental

Single crystals of K₂WSe₄ suitable for X-ray investigation were synthesized by heating a mixture of K₂Se₃, Se and W (molar ratio 3:6:1, prepared in a glove box) in sealed and evacuated (10⁻⁴ bar; 1 bar = 10⁵ Pa) glass ampoules over a period of 5 d at 623 K. The crystals were grown by slow cooling of the ampoule (3 K h⁻¹). The friable dark red slabs were manually selected from the melt. K₂WSe₄ is soluble in polar solvents like DMF or acetonitrile. The crystals are moisture-sensitive and decompose within approximately 4 d, and were therefore coated with epoxy glue before being mounted for analysis.

Crystal data

K₂WSe₄
M_r = 577.89
 Orthorhombic
Pnma
a = 9.7337 (8) Å
b = 7.2012 (6) Å
c = 12.5976 (12) Å
V = 883.02 (13) Å³
Z = 4
D_x = 4.347 Mg m⁻³
D_m not measured

Mo Kα radiation
 λ = 0.71073 Å
 Cell parameters from 94 reflections
 θ = 17–24.5°
 μ = 30.414 mm⁻¹
T = 293 (2) K
 Slab
 0.48 × 0.22 × 0.05 mm
 Dark red

Data collection

Stoe AED-II diffractometer
 ω–2θ scans
 Absorption correction:
 numerical
T_{min} = 0.0072, *T_{max}* = 0.2196
 1752 measured reflections
 1381 independent reflections

R_{int} = 0.0362
 θ_{max} = 29.99°
h = 0 → 13
k = –10 → 3
l = –2 → 17
 4 standard reflections
 frequency: 120 min
 intensity decay: negligible

Refinement

Refinement on *F*²
R[*F*² > 2σ(*F*²)] = 0.032
wR(*F*²) = 0.086
S = 1.026
 1381 reflections
 41 parameters
w = 1/[σ²(*F_o*²) + (0.0527*P*)²]
 where *P* = (*F_o*² + 2*F_c*²)/3
 (Δ/σ)_{max} = 0.001

Δρ_{max} = 2.33 e Å⁻³
 Δρ_{min} = –2.48 e Å⁻³
 Extinction correction:
SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993)
 Extinction coefficient:
 0.0078 (4)
 Scattering factors from
International Tables for Crystallography (Vol. C)

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å²)

$$U_{eq} = (1/3)\sum_i \sum_j U^{ij} a_i^* a_j^* a_i a_j$$

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>U_{eq}</i>
K1	0.4537 (2)	1/4	0.3422 (2)	0.0399 (5)
K2	0.1574 (2)	1/4	0.6157 (3)	0.0501 (7)
W1	0.74805 (3)	1/4	0.56811 (3)	0.02196 (14)
Se1	0.51526 (8)	1/4	0.61001 (9)	0.0388 (3)
Se2	0.85321 (7)	0.50758 (10)	0.64021 (8)	0.0427 (2)
Se3	0.78380 (10)	1/4	0.38718 (9)	0.0428 (3)

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

K1—Se3	3.263 (2)	K2—Se3 ⁱⁱⁱ	3.6460 (5)
K1—Se3 ⁱ	3.329 (3)	K2—Se3 ⁱⁱ	3.6460 (5)
K1—Se ¹	3.427 (3)	K2—Se2 ⁱⁱ	3.667 (3)
K1—Se2 ⁱⁱ	3.467 (2)	K2—Se2 ⁱⁱⁱ	3.667 (3)
K1—Se2 ⁱⁱⁱ	3.467 (2)	K2—Se1 ^{ix}	3.722 (3)
K1—Se2 ^{ix}	3.613 (2)	K2—W1 ^{viii}	4.029 (2)
K1—Se2 ^x	3.613 (2)	K2—W1 ^{ix}	4.080 (3)
K1—Se1 ⁱⁱⁱ	3.6632 (6)	K2—K1 ^x	4.719 (3)
K1—Se1 ^{vi}	3.6632 (6)	W1—Se2	2.3050 (7)
K2—Se1	3.484 (2)	W1—Se2 ^{xi}	2.3050 (7)
K2—Se2 ⁱⁱⁱ	3.507 (2)	W1—Se3	2.3056 (12)
K2—Se2 ⁱⁱⁱⁱ	3.507 (2)	W1—Se1	2.3266 (9)
Se2—W1—Se2 ^{xi}	107.16 (4)	Se2—W1—Se1	110.07 (3)
Se2—W1—Se3	108.82 (3)	Se2 ^{xi} —W1—Se1	110.07 (3)
Se2 ^{xi} —W1—Se3	108.82 (3)	Se3—W1—Se1	111.79 (4)

Symmetry codes: (i) *x* – ½, *y*, ½ – *z*; (ii) 1 – *x*, *y* – ½, 1 – *z*; (iii) 1 – *x*, 1 – *y*, 1 – *z*; (iv) ½ – *x*, 1 – *y*, *z* – ½; (v) ½ – *x*, *y* – ½, *z* – ½; (vi) 1 – *x*, –*y*, 1 – *z*; (vii) *x* – 1, ½ – *y*, *z*; (viii) *x* – 1, *y*, *z*; (ix) *x* – ½, *y*, ½ – *z*; (x) ½ – *x*, 1 – *y*, ½ + *z*; (xi) *x*, ½ – *y*, *z*.

Table 3. Comparison of the lattice parameters (Å) and cell volumes (Å³) of K₂WSe₄, Rb₂WSe₄ and Cs₂WSe₄

	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>V</i>
K ₂ WSe ₄	9.734 (1)	7.201 (1)	12.598 (1)	883.02 (13)
Rb ₂ WSe ₄	10.10	7.28	12.85	944.7
Cs ₂ WSe ₄	10.32	7.45	13.07	1004.5

The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. All atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The largest peaks in the difference map are located in the neighbourhood of W1. It is noted that most of the atoms in special positions show significantly higher values for *U*²² than for the other displacement components, indicating possible disorder which could not be resolved during this study. Such disorder is well documented for different compounds with the β-K₂SO₄ structure.

Data collection: *DIF4* (Stoe & Cie, 1992). Cell refinement: *DIF4*. Data reduction: *DIF4*. Program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1990). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: *SHELXTLUPC* (Sheldrick, 1995). Software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL93 CIFTAB*.

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: BR1161). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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A New Polymorph of $\text{Li}_4\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$

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Abstract

The purpose of the present paper is to report the crystal structure of a new phase of tetralithium diphosphate identified by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. The structure consists of layers built from Li–O tetrahedra and pyrophosphate groups connected to each other through edges and vertices.

Comment

A tetralithium diphosphate obtained by hydrothermal treatment at 1000 atm (1 atm = 101 325 Pa) for 100 h with four formula units of $\text{Li}_4\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$ in a $P2_1/n$ cell of dimensions $a = 5.190(2)$, $b = 13.902(3)$, $c = 7.901(3)$ Å, $\beta = 89.97(3)^\circ$ was described recently (Yakubovich & Mel'nikov, 1994). The structure was described as the first lithium phosphate structure containing diphosphate groups formed by vertex-sharing PO_4 tetrahedra (see also Wenger & Armbruster, 1991; Tien & Hummel, 1961; Keffer, Mighell, Mauer, Swanson & Block, 1967; Averbuch-Pouchot & Durif, 1986). Comparison of the present structure with that described by Yakubovich & Mel'nikov (1994) is not possible as the published coordinates of the latter appear to contain errors.

The new phase reported here (Fig. 1) can be described in terms of P_2O_7 and LiO_4 units. The pyrophosphate groups (lower right-hand side of Fig. 1), built up from two PO_4 tetrahedra sharing a vertex, show typical geometry with two long P—O bonds [P1—O1 1.622(1) and P2—O1 1.626(1) Å] corresponding to the P—O—P bridge and three shorter P—O bonds in the range 1.504(1) to 1.527(1) Å (Leclaire, Benmoussa, Borel, Grandin & Raveau, 1988; Constantin, Borel, Grandin, Leclaire & Raveau, 1990). The LiO_4 tetrahedra are highly distorted with Li—O distances ranging from

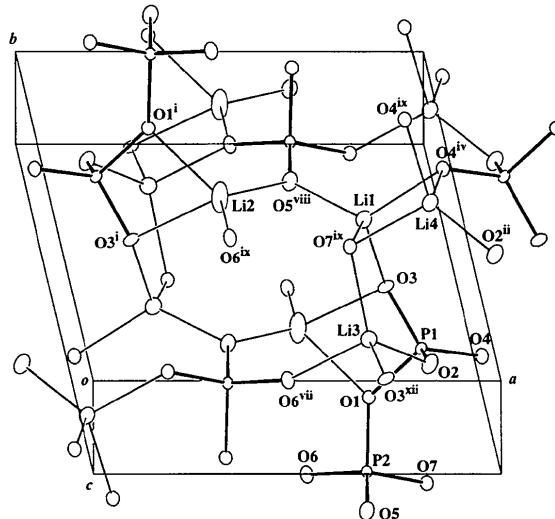


Fig. 1. Projection of the structure on the ab plane showing the atom labels. Displacement ellipsoids are represented at the 50% probability level. Symmetry codes: (i) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$; (ii) $2-x, 1-y, 2-z$; (iv) $2-x, 1-y, 1-z$; (vii) $1-x, -y, 1-z$; (viii) $x, 1+y, z$; (ix) $x, 1+y, 1+z$; (xii) $x, y, 1+z$.

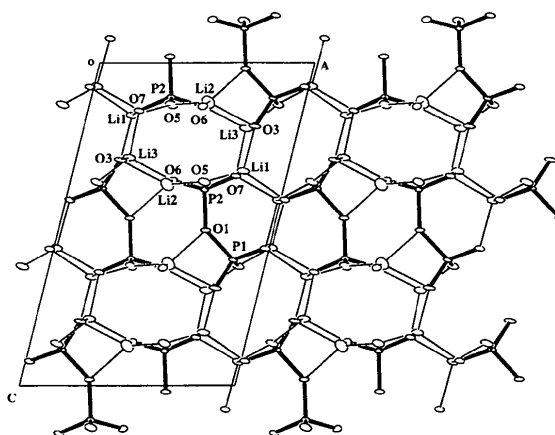


Fig. 2. The structure as drawn along the b axis of the pseudo monoclinic A -centred cell. All possible twofold axes appearing along b are destroyed by the relative situation of the P2—O5 and Li2—O6 bonds around them. See, for instance, the pseudo-twofold axis perpendicular to the eight-membered rings formed by the labelled atoms.