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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (Te–O) = 0.007 Å R factor = 0.034 wR factor = 0.074 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.0

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# Lutetium(III) oxotellurate(IV), Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub>

Rare-earth(III) oxotellurates(IV) with the composition  $M_2$ Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub> are known for yttrium and all lanthanides except promethium and lutetium from single-crystal X-ray structure determinations. Single crystals of the last missing non-radio-active isostructural compound, Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub>, can now be obtained by modifying the common method of synthesis from the binary oxides (Lu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TeO<sub>2</sub>; 1:4 molar ratio) using torch-sealed non-evacuated silica ampoules as reaction containers. The structure contains layers of edge-sharing [LuO<sub>8</sub>] polyhedra connected by oxotellurate(IV) chains. These consist of [TeO<sub>3</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> and [Te<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> anions (with  $\psi^1$ -tetrahedral oxygen coordination for all central Te<sup>4+</sup> cations) linked by strong secondary Te-O interactions.

### Comment

Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub> is isostructural to all other known rare-earth(III) oxotellurates(IV) of the type  $M_2$ Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub> (M = Y, La–Nd and Sm–Yb; Castro *et al.*, 1990; Weber *et al.*, 2001; Ijjaali *et al.*, 2003; Höss *et al.*, 2004; Meier & Schleid, 2004; Shen & Mao, 2004). The structure contains only one lutetium site, where Lu<sup>3+</sup> is coordinated by eight O atoms in the shape of a distorted trigonal dodecahedron (Fig. 1). The [LuO<sub>8</sub>] polyhedra [Lu–O = 2.189 (7)–2.480 (7) Å] form reticulated layers parallel to the (001) plane by sharing three edges each. The two tellurium sites are each coordinated by four (better: 3 + 1) O atoms. Three of them bond covalently [Te–O = 1.841 (7)–2.023 (4) Å] to each Te<sup>4+</sup> cation and form  $\psi^1$ -tetrahedra together with the lone pair. The fourth O atom belongs to the primary coordination sphere of the other Te<sup>4+</sup> cation [Te1–O4 = 2.567 (7) Å and Te2–O1 = 2.312 (7) Å], so that the



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## inorganic papers



**Figure 2** Double chains built up by oxotellurate(IV) units,  $[TeO_3]^{2-}$  and  $[Te_2O_5]^{2-}$ , in the direction of the *a* axis.

alternating oxotellurate units build up zigzag chains in the direction of the *a* axis (Fig. 2). These chains are located above and below the reticulated layers of condensed [LuO<sub>8</sub>] polyhedra with the Te atoms lying within the meshes (Fig. 3). Through Te2-O6-Te2 bridges [Te2-O6 = 2.023 (4) Å and Te2-O6-Te2 = 138.9 (5)°], the tellurate units, [Te<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>]<sup>2-</sup>, connect these layers and build up a three-dimensional structure (Fig. 4). Between the layers, there is still enough space left to accommodate the lone pairs of the Te<sup>4+</sup> cations. The motifs of mutual adjunction (Hoppe, 1980) and the coordination numbers (CN) are shown in Table 2. With the strong secondary Te-O interactions disregarded, the structure of Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub> could be formulated as Lu<sub>2</sub>[TeO<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[Te<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>].

### **Experimental**

Single crystals of Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub> were grown in torch-sealed but nonevacuated silica ampoules by fusing a mixture of Lu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TeO<sub>2</sub> in a 1:4 molar ratio at 1123 K for 10 d. CsCl was used as a flux to improve single-crystal growth. The ampoules were cooled to 923 K over two days and finally to room temperature. The common method of synthesis (Weber *et al.*, 2001) using evacuated silica ampoules always leads to a two-phase product consisting of the formal dismutation compounds Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (Meier & Schleid, 2002) and Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>5</sub>O<sub>13</sub> (Meier & Schleid, 2005). The slightly higher pressure (~4 bar at 1123 K) in the sealed air-containing ampoules seems to promote the formation of Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub>, where Lu<sup>3+</sup> has an unusually large coordination number, with eight O atoms at more or less equal distances.

#### Crystal data

$Lu_2Te_4O_{11}$	$D_x = 7.241 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 1036.34$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $C2/c$	Cell parameters from 3912
a = 12.2953 (8) Å	reflections
b = 5.0596 (3) Å	$\theta = 1.0-27.5^{\circ}$
c = 15.9134 (9) Å	$\mu = 32.74 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 106.202 \ (7)^{\circ}$	T = 293 (2) K
$V = 950.64 (10) \text{ Å}^3$	Spheroid, colourless
Z = 4	$0.04 \times 0.03 \times 0.02 \text{ mm}$
Data collection	
Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer	791 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	$R_{\rm int} = 0.096$
Absorption correction: numerical	$\theta_{\rm max} = 27.6^{\circ}$
(X-SHAPE; Stoe & Cie, 1998)	$h = -16 \rightarrow 16$
$T_{\rm min} = 0.320, T_{\rm max} = 0.539$	$k = -6 \rightarrow 6$

 $l = -20 \rightarrow 20$ 

 $T_{\rm min} = 0.320, T_{\rm max} = 0.539$ 10819 measured reflections 1108 independent reflections

#### Figure 3

Reticulated layers of triple edge-shared  $[LuO_8]$  polyhedra parallel to the (001) plane. The Te<sup>4+</sup> cations lie above and below the meshes.

Refinement	
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Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0272P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.034$	where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$vR(F^2) = 0.074$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$
S = 1.00	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 1.86 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
108 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -1.38 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$
79 parameters	Extinction correction: SHELXL97
	Extinction coefficient: 0.00360 (11)

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Lu-O3 <sup>i</sup>	2.189 (7)	Te1-O3	1.871 (7)
Lu-O5 <sup>ii</sup>	2.218 (7)	Te1-O2	1.885 (7)
Lu-O2 <sup>iii</sup>	2.243 (7)	Te1-O1	1.892 (7)
Lu-O2 <sup>ii</sup>	2.327 (7)	Te1-O4 <sup>vii</sup>	2.567 (7)
Lu-O4 <sup>iv</sup>	2.365 (7)	Te2-O5 <sup>iv</sup>	1.841 (7)
Lu-O1 <sup>iv</sup>	2.416 (7)	Te2-O4 <sup>iv</sup>	1.912 (7)
Lu-O4 <sup>v</sup>	2.471 (7)	Te2-O6	2.023 (4)
Lu-O3 <sup>vi</sup>	2.480 (7)	Te2-O1 <sup>iv</sup>	2.312 (7)
Te2 <sup>vi</sup> -O6-Te2	138.9 (5)		
Symmetry codes: (i) x	$-v_{1} z - \frac{1}{2} (ii) - z$	$+^{1}$ y $-^{1}$ $-^{7}$ $+^{1}$ (iii) x	$-v \pm 1$ $z = \frac{1}{2}$ (iv)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, -y, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ; (ii)  $-x + \frac{1}{2}, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (iii)  $x, -y + 1, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ; (iv)  $-x + \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ; (vi)  $-x, y, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (vii)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, z$ .

Table	2							
Motifs	of	mutual	adjunction	(Hoppe,	1980)	and	coordination	numbers
(CN).								

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	CN
Lu	1/1	2/2	2/2	2/2	1/1	0/0	8
Te1	1/1	1/1	1/1	0 + 1/0 + 1	0/0	0/0	3 + 1
Te2	0 + 1/0 + 1	0/0	0/0	1/1	1/1	1/2	3 + 1
CN	2 + 1	3	3	3 + 1	2	2	-

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1998); cell refinement: *SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *SCALEPACK* and *DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg, 2005); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.



Figure 4

Crystal structure of Lu<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub> viewed along the *b* axis. The oxotellurate(IV) double chains connect the reticulated layers of condensed [LuO<sub>8</sub>] polyhedra through Te<sub>2</sub>-O6-Te<sub>2</sub> bridges.

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