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## Patrick Höss and Thomas Schleid\*

Institut für Anorganische Chemie, Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 55, D-70569 Stuttgart, Germany

Correspondence e-mail: hoess@iac.uni-stuttgart.de

#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (Y–O) = 0.004 Å R factor = 0.019 wR factor = 0.045 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.9

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

## Y<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>6</sub> with the La<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>6</sub>-type structure

Of rare-earth metal hexaoxotellurates(VI), only the structures of formula type  $RE_2$ TeO<sub>6</sub> are known so far. Diyttrium(III) hexaoxotellurate(VI), Y<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>6</sub>, crystallizes isotypically with the orthorhombic La<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>6</sub>-prototype structure in space group  $P2_12_12_1$ . Single crystals were obtained by fusing a mixture of Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TeO<sub>3</sub> (1:1 molar ratio) in evacuated silica ampoules. The crystal structure is built up by alternating zigzag chains of edge-sharing [Y1O<sub>7</sub>] and vertex-sharing [Y2O<sub>7</sub>] polyhedra. Both chain types are arranged in interpenetrating tetragonal rod-packings and are joined to each other by sharing common edges and vertices. The three-dimensional [Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>]<sup>6-</sup> framework has channels along [100] in which the Te<sup>6+</sup> cations reside, leading to discrete [TeO<sub>6</sub>] octahedra.

## Comment

Y<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>6</sub> is isotypic with rare-earth metal(III) hexaoxotellurates(VI) of the orthorhombic La<sub>2</sub>TeO<sub>6</sub> type (RE = Ce– Nd, Sm–Tm) (Nathanson, 1968; Hützler *et al.*, 1984; Trömel *et al.*, 1987; Meier & Schleid, 2003; Meier & Schleid, 2004; Höss & Schleid, 2007*a*), except for the heaviest rare-earth metals Yb and Lu (Nathanson, 1968; Malone *et al.*, 1969; Hützler *et al.*, 1984; Trömel *et al.*, 1987; Höss *et al.*, 2007) and further for



### Figure 1

The oxygen coordination environment about  $(Y1)^{3+}$ ,  $(Y2)^{3+}$  and Te<sup>6+</sup>. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 95% probability level. Symmetry codes are as in Table 1.

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## inorganic papers



#### Figure 2

Zigzag chains of edge-sharing [Y1O<sub>7</sub>] and vertex-connected [Y2O<sub>7</sub>] polyhedra running along [100].



#### Figure 3

The crystal structure of  $Y_2$ TeO<sub>6</sub> projected approximately along [ $\overline{100}$ ]. The [Y1O<sub>7</sub>] polyhedra are shown in orange and the [Y2O<sub>7</sub>] polyhedra in purple. O and Te atoms are represented as light-blue and grey spheres, respectively.

Sc (Höss & Schleid, 2007*b*), which all adopt the trigonal  $Na_2SiF_6$ -type structure (Zalkin *et al.*, 1964).

The structure of the title compound contains two crystallographically independent Y cations that are both sevenfold coordinated by O atoms (Fig. 1 and Table 1). Both types of yttrium–oxygen polyhedra are condensed to chains in which the [Y1O<sub>7</sub>] polyhedra are joined by sharing edges (O5–O6) whilst the [Y2O<sub>7</sub>] polyhedra share common vertices (O3) with each other. Both chain types propagate along [100] and each is arranged independently in the form of a distorted tetragonal rod-packing (O'Keeffe & Andersson, 1977). These two kinds of rod-packings interpenetrate and are further linked by common edges and vertices. The resulting three-dimensional [Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>]<sup>6–</sup> framework has channels in which the Te<sup>6+</sup> cations reside (Fig. 3). This leads to an octahedral oxygen coordination environment for the unique tellurium cation site (Fig. 1 and Table 1).

The motifs of mutual adjunction (Hoppe, 1980) and coordination numbers (CN) are given in Table 2. Since there are no contacts between the [TeO<sub>6</sub>] polyhedra, discrete octahedra exist within the structure (Fig. 3), and hence the formula of  $Y_2$ TeO<sub>6</sub> can also be written as  $Y_2$ [TeO<sub>6</sub>]. This is in good agreement with the structure descriptions of  $M_6^I$ [TeO<sub>6</sub>], *e.g.* Li<sub>6</sub>[TeO<sub>6</sub>] (Hauck, 1969; Wisser & Hoppe, 1989), and  $M_3^{II}$ [TeO<sub>6</sub>] compounds, *e.g.* Ca<sub>3</sub>[TeO<sub>6</sub>] (Hottentot & Loopstra, 1981), where isolated [TeO<sub>6</sub>] octahedra are also present in the structures.

#### Experimental

Single crystals of  $Y_2$ TeO<sub>6</sub> were obtained from mixtures of the binary oxides  $Y_2O_3$  and TeO<sub>3</sub> in a 1:1 molar ratio. The reaction took place in torch-sealed evacuated silica ampoules at 1073 K for 8 d with a surplus of CsCl as fluxing agent to improve the single-crystal growth. The ampoules were cooled to 773 K within two days, and afterwards the furnace was turned off. The single-phase product  $Y_2$ TeO<sub>6</sub> emerged as block-like colourless and transparent single crystals (approximately 0.2 mm in diameter), which appeared to be stable in air and water.

#### Crystal data

 $Y_2 \text{TeO}_6$  $V = 470.74 (6) \text{ Å}^3$  $M_r = 401.42$ Z = 4Orthorhombic,  $P2_12_12_1$ Mo K $\alpha$  radiationa = 5.2456 (4) Å $\mu = 30.55 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ b = 9.0361 (7) ÅT = 293 (2) Kc = 9.9312 (8) Å $0.10 \times 0.08 \times 0.06 \text{ mm}$ 

#### Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer Absorption correction: numerical (X-SHAPE; Stoe & Cie, 1999) $T_{\min} = 0.043, T_{\max} = 0.164$ 

### Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.019$	$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 0.84 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
WR(F) = 0.045 S = 1.05	$\Delta \rho_{\min} = -1.16$ e A Absolute structure: Flack (1983),
1153 reflections	454 Friedel pairs
83 parameters	Flack parameter: $-0.011$ (7)

11534 measured reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.088$ 

1153 independent reflections

1144 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

# Table 1 Selected bond lengths (Å).

Y1-01	2.253 (4)	$Y2-O6^{v}$	2.291 (4)
Y1-O4 <sup>i</sup>	2.287 (4)	$Y2-O2^{i}$	2.294 (4)
Y1-O2	2.297 (4)	$Y2-O4^{i}$	2.431 (4)
Y1-O5 <sup>i</sup>	2.307 (4)	Y2-O5 <sup>vi</sup>	2.591 (4)
$Y1-O6^{ii}$	2.346 (4)	Te-O1	1.893 (4)
$Y1-O5^{iii}$	2.469 (4)	Te-O2 <sup>vii</sup>	1.901 (4)
Y1-O6	2.496 (4)	Te-O3	1.909 (4)
Y2-O3	2.215 (4)	Te-O4 <sup>viii</sup>	1.922 (4)
$Y2-O3^{i}$	2.258 (3)	Te-O5 <sup>vi</sup>	1.938 (4)
$Y2-O1^{iv}$	2.280 (4)	Te-O6 <sup>vii</sup>	1.952 (4)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{3}{2}, -z + 1$ ; (ii)  $x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{3}{2}, -z + 2$ ; (iii) x, y, z + 1; (iv) - $x + \frac{3}{2}, -y + 2, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $-x + 2, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{3}{2}$ ; (vi)  $-x + \frac{3}{2}, -y + 2, z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (vii) - $x + 1, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{3}{2}$ ; (viii)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{3}{2}, -z + 1$ .

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

	01	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	CN
Y1	1/1	1/1	0/0	1/1	2/2	2/2	7
Y2	1/1	1/1	2/2	1/1	1/1	1/1	7
Te	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	6
CN	3	3	3	3	4	4	

The deepest hole in the final difference Fourier map is located 0.78 Å from Te.

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, 2006); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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