

Table I. Reaction Conditions

starting material	temp of reactn, °C	reactn time, h
(NH ₄) ₂ RuCl ₆	180	4
(NH ₄) ₂ OsCl ₆	220	3
(NH ₄) ₂ PdCl ₆	110	2
(NH ₄) ₂ PtCl ₆	130	1

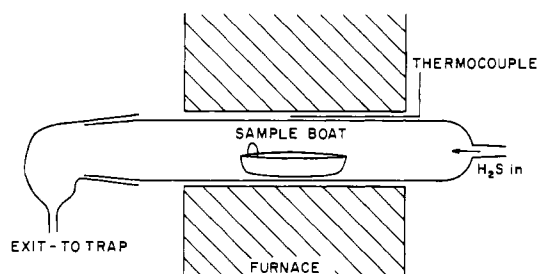


Figure 1. Reaction apparatus.

tained, form the basis for the term "poorly crystallized".] Previously, there has been reported^{7,8} a technique for the preparation of a number of group 4B, 5B, and 6B poorly crystallized or amorphous transition-metal dichalcogenides and more recently for the preparation of poorly crystallized RuS₂.⁹ These materials were prepared in nonaqueous solvents, at ambient temperature and pressure, by the reaction of an anhydrous transition-metal chloride with either Li₂S or NH₄HS. This paper discusses a new synthetic method for the preparation of poorly crystallized platinum metal dichalcogenides, RuS₂, OsS₂, PtS₂, and PdS₂, which is simpler than the procedures previously published. The properties of the "amorphous" platinum metal dichalcogenides are compared with those of their annealed crystalline analogues.

Experimental Section

Preparation. Poorly crystallized RuS₂, OsS₂, and PdS₂ were prepared by the reaction of anhydrous ammonium hexachlororuthenate(IV), ammonium hexachloroosmate(IV), ammonium hexachloroplatinate(IV), and ammonium hexachloropalladate(IV) with hydrogen sulfide at the conditions outlined in Table I. The reaction times and temperatures indicated are critical; too high a reaction temperature results in the decomposition of the ammonium hexachlorometallate(IV) complex to the metal, whereas too low a reaction temperature does not allow for a complete reaction to occur.

All of the platinum metal reactants were obtained from Engelhard Minerals and Chemicals Corp. The hydrogen sulfide was obtained from Matheson Gas Products Co. and was predried through a column of aluminum sulfide (Cerac/Pure Inc.).

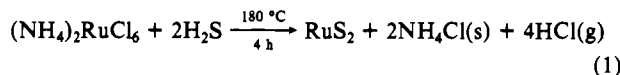
Preparation of RuS₂. Anhydrous ammonium hexachlororuthenate(IV) was prepared from RuCl₃.¹⁰ The (NH₄)₂RuCl₆ complex was ground thoroughly under nitrogen with an agate mortar and pestle and placed into a silica boat, which was then placed inside a clamshell furnace as shown in Figure 1. The system was purged, at a flow rate of 55 cm³/min, first with dry nitrogen and then with hydrogen sulfide, each for 30 min before the furnace was heated. When the ammonium hexachlororuthenate(IV) precursor was at the temperature indicated in Table I for half the stated time, the furnace was shut off. The material was cooled rapidly to room temperature while a hydrogen sulfide purge was maintained. The partially reacted material was removed from the furnace, reground thoroughly with an agate mortar and pestle, and treated in hydrogen sulfide for the time remaining. In the preparation of poorly crystallized RuS₂, there

Table II. Annealing Conditions

material	temp of annealing, °C	length of annealing, days
RuS ₂	800	4
OsS ₂	800	4
PtS ₂	750	6
PdS ₂	700	5

is an additional heat treatment with hydrogen sulfide that is not indicated in Table I. Without exposing the "amorphous" RuS₂ to air, following the second 2-h treatment under H₂S at 180 °C, the furnace temperature is increased to 250 °C and is maintained for an additional 2.5 h. Poorly crystallized RuS₂ tends to be pyrophoric, and this additional heat treatment is necessary to prevent air oxidation of the product.

The reaction between the ammonium hexachlororuthenate(IV) and hydrogen sulfide is assumed to proceed by eq 1.



For removal of all traces of ammonium chloride, the products obtained by the above reaction were transferred to a Soxhlet extractor and extracted with methanol for 24 h. The materials were then extracted with carbon disulfide for 12 h to remove any sulfur that may have been deposited with the products. Decomposition of hydrogen sulfide at 250 °C was observed to occur in the presence of RuS₂. After extraction with carbon disulfide, the poorly crystallized RuS₂ was dried under vacuum.

Preparation of OsS₂, PdS₂, and PtS₂. Anhydrous (NH₄)₂OsCl₆ was obtained from Engelhard Minerals and Chemicals Corp. Anhydrous (NH₄)₂PdCl₆ was prepared from PdCl₂,¹¹ and anhydrous (NH₄)₂PtCl₆ was prepared from Pt metal.¹² The conditions for the synthesis of poorly crystallized OsS₂, PtS₂, and PdS₂ are outlined in Table I. The procedure is identical with that described for the synthesis of poorly crystallized RuS₂. However, it is not necessary to thermally treat "amorphous" OsS₂, PdS₂, and PtS₂ at an elevated temperature as it is for RuS₂, since these three products do not tend to be pyrophoric.

Annealing Experiments. The products obtained after the extractions with methanol and carbon disulfide were annealed with 10% by weight excess sulfur in evacuated sealed silica tubes at temperatures ranging from 250 to 800 °C. The temperatures and times of annealing necessary to form well-crystallized materials are outlined in Table II. Each time the samples were quenched to room temperature.

X-ray Analysis and Characterization. Powder diffraction patterns were obtained with a Norelco diffractometer using monochromated high-intensity Cu Kα₁ radiation (λ = 1.5405 Å). Fast scans at 1° (2θ)/min of the products were examined for the presence of extraneous phases. Slow scans of 1/4° (2θ)/min were obtained for all single-phase samples in the range 12° ≤ 2θ ≤ 120°. Lattice parameters for the crystalline phases OsS₂, RuS₂, PdS₂, and PtS₂ were determined by least-squares analysis using high-angle data (2θ > 50°), corrected relative to an internal MgO standard.

Thermogravimetric Analysis. The sulfur to metal ratio in the amorphous materials was determined by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) with use of a Cahn electrobalance (Model RG) with a 0.001-mg accuracy. Approximately 30 mg of finely powdered samples of each of the poorly crystallized products was placed in a silica bucket for heating. The maximum temperature reached was 900 °C, and the rate of heating was 30 °C/h. The sample was kept at 900 °C for 12 h after which time the furnace was shut off, allowing the sample to cool to room temperature.

Magnetic Measurements. Magnetic susceptibility data were obtained with a Faraday balance equipped with a Cahn RG electrobalance, described elsewhere,¹³ over a temperature range of 80–300 K for poorly crystallized and crystalline RuS₂, OsS₂, PtS₂, and PdS₂. Measurements were performed at field strengths between 6.25 and 10.30 kOe. The balance was calibrated by using platinum wire (χ_g = 0.991 × 10⁻⁶ emu/g at 275 K). No corrections were made for core

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Table III. Thermogravimetric Analysis Results

material	starting wt, mg	final wt, mg	theor		mole ratio M:S
			wt loss, mg	wt loss, mg	
RuS ₂	17.19	10.14	7.05	6.67	1:2.19
OsS ₂	19.05	14.13	4.92	4.80	1:2.07
PdS ₂	12.99	8.27	4.72	4.88	1:1.89
PtS ₂	15.15	10.60	4.55	3.75	1:2.43

Table IV. Crystallization Parameters

material	temp of onset of crystallization, °C	obsd phase	cell parameters, Å	
			fmt a	fmt b
RuS ₂	350	cubic pyrite	a = 5.610 (2)	a = 5.610 ¹⁴
OsS ₂	400	cubic pyrite	a = 5.620 (2)	a = 5.6196 ¹⁵
PtS ₂	425	hexagonal	a = 3.544 (2),	a = 3.543,
		CdI ₂	c = 5.039 (2)	c = 5.038 ¹⁶
PdS ₂	450	orthorhombic	a = 5.457 (2),	a = 5.460,
		distorted	b = 5.542 (2),	b = 5.541,
		pyrite	c = 7.534 (2)	c = 7.531 ¹⁷

^a Cell parameters calculated from this work. ^b Cell parameters obtained for well-crystallized materials prepared by conventional methods (i.e., direct combination of the elements).

diamagnetism because of the large uncertainty in the magnitude of the corrections relative to the susceptibility of the material studied.

Results and Discussions

Thermogravimetric Analysis. Thermogravimetric analysis was carried out on the reaction products after extraction with methanol and carbon disulfide in order to obtain a value for the ratio of sulfur to metal. Results of the thermogravimetric analysis are summarized in Table III. In all cases, when the "amorphous" materials were subjected to the indicated conditions of thermogravimetric analysis, they decomposed to the metal and sulfur. X-ray powder diffraction patterns of the decomposed products confirmed the formation of metal.

X-ray Analysis. Powder X-ray diffraction analysis of the reaction products showed them to be poorly crystallized. The series of annealing experiments indicated that the poorly "amorphous" platinum metal dichalcogenides showed evidence of crystallization at the temperatures indicated in Table IV. The crystallized phases observed are also summarized in Table IV.

The changes in the crystalline character of RuS₂ as a function of annealing temperature can be seen in Figure 2. It can be seen that the Bragg peaks expected for the crystalline phase of RuS₂ develop from the corresponding X-ray powder diffraction envelope of the poorly crystallized disulfide. It should be noted that the vertical-line diffraction patterns shown in Figure 2 are a schematic representation of the X-ray powder diffraction patterns observed for the crystalline phase. There was no evidence for the existence of either metal or metal oxide in any of the X-ray patterns. Similar results were obtained for OsS₂, PdS₂, and PtS₂.

Cell parameters were calculated for the well-crystallized materials and are summarized in Table IV. From Table IV, it can be seen that the calculated cell parameters are consistent with the parameters reported previously for the dichalcogenides

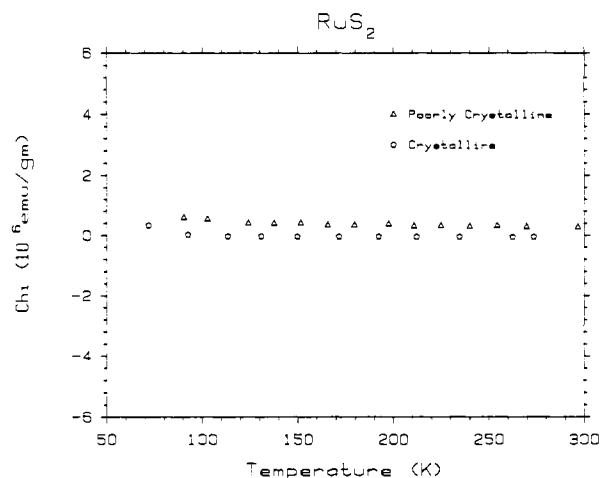


Figure 2. Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of "amorphous" and crystalline RuS₂.

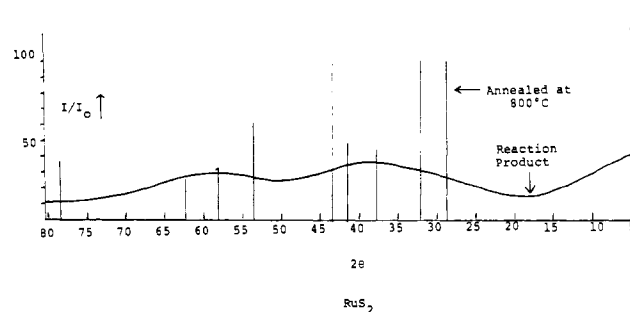


Figure 3. Magnetic susceptibility (χ vs. temperature) of "amorphous" and crystalline RuS₂.

prepared by conventional methods (i.e., direct combination of the elements).

Magnetic Measurements. RuS₂ and OsS₂ contain low-spin d⁶ Ru and Os, respectively, and are known to be diamagnetic. PdS₂ and PtS₂ contain low-spin d⁸ Pd and Pt, respectively, and are also known to be diamagnetic. Hence, magnetic susceptibility measurements on the four "amorphous" platinum metal dichalcogenides were an important means of confirming their composition. Magnetic susceptibility was also remeasured for the same material after annealing at the temperatures stated in Table II. At these temperatures the crystalline phases could be substantiated by X-ray analysis. Results of the magnetic susceptibility measurements are given in Figure 3. It can be seen that diamagnetic behavior is observed, as predicted for both the poorly crystallized and crystalline phases of RuS₂. Similar behavior was observed for OsS₂, PtS₂, and PdS₂.

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Registry No. RuS₂, 12166-20-0; OsS₂, 12137-61-0; PdS₂, 12137-75-6; PtS₂, 12038-21-0; (NH₄)₂RuCl₆, 18746-63-9; (NH₄)₂OsCl₆, 12125-08-5; (NH₄)₂PdCl₆, 19168-23-1; (NH₄)₂PtCl₆, 16919-58-7; H₂S, 7783-06-4.

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