

Recently, Edwards and Pearson<sup>17</sup> have discussed important factors which contribute to nucleophilicity. Basicity and polarizability of the nucleophile play an important role. In the  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SOH}_2^{2+}$  substrate, nucleophilic attack at either sulfur or oxygen should be correlated by a combination of basicity and polarizability in the nucleophile, because each center bears a positive charge and possesses an unshared pair of electrons. Since polarizability increases and basicity decreases in the series  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{I}^-$ , the two factors cannot be separated unambiguously in this system. It is likely that the solvent-solute interactions control the

nucleophilicities observed. For example, thiocyanate ion, which is more basic and more polarizable than the halide ions, should be an effective nucleophile. The lack of reactivity of thiocyanate must be due to its considerable stability in both protic and aprotic solvents. Thus, the nature of the solvent is critical in understanding reactivity in the system investigated in this paper and, in general, should be taken into account whenever comparisons of nucleophilicity are made among solvents of different types.

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(17) J. O. Edwards and R. G. Pearson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **84**, 16 (1962).

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## Substoichiometry of Tungsten Trioxide; the Crystal Systems of $\text{WO}_{3.00}$ , $\text{WO}_{2.98}$ , and $\text{WO}_{2.96}$ <sup>1</sup>

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From the results of powder and single crystal X-ray measurements together with measured densities and chemical analyses it has been demonstrated that substoichiometric tungsten trioxides possess structures which are significantly different from that of the stoichiometric trioxide. For the composition  $\text{WO}_{2.98}$  the space group is  $\text{P}2_1/\text{m}$  and the unit cell contains four tungsten atoms and has the dimensions  $a = 7.354 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 7.569 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 3.854 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $\beta = 90.6^\circ$ . The tungsten subcell is of the same type but slightly larger than that of the stoichiometric oxide. The results for the composition  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\alpha)$  indicate the space group  $\text{P}2_1/\text{c}$  and a unit cell containing the formula  $\text{W}_{60}\text{O}_{148}$  and having the cell constants  $a = 11.90 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 3.826 \pm 0.012 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 59.64 \pm 0.06 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $\beta = 98.4^\circ$ . The proposed structure is uniquely solved for the  $x$  and  $z$  coordinates but not for the  $y$  coordinates, which appear to be located in a number of planes staggered about  $y = 1/2$ . Each unit cell contains two hexagonally-shaped ordered defects that are bisected by recurrent dislocation planes. A higher temperature polymorph,  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\beta)$ , with a unit cell tentatively containing the formula  $\text{W}_{28}\text{O}_{74}$  becomes stable at approximately  $1250^\circ$ .

### Introduction

The basic chemical and physical properties of binary compounds of the group VI transition metals Cr, Mo, and W are generally complex. In recent years, a number of investigations dealing with the crystallographic and thermodynamic behavior, particularly of Mo and W oxides, have elucidated the complex chemical bonding that occurs both in the solid and vapor phases. Furthermore, in the case of a number of transition metal oxides, carbides, sulfides, and phosphides, gross deviations from ideal stoichiometry are readily obtained and must be acknowledged in physicochemical descriptions of these systems. In a recent thermodynamic investigation of the tungsten-oxygen system<sup>2</sup> it was observed at temperatures of 1300–1550°K. that tungsten trioxide becomes substoichiometric and evaporates congruently at a composition near  $\text{WO}_{2.96}$  under the influence of the particular vacuum conditions ( $10^{-6}$ – $10^{-7}$  mm. pressure) employed.

The X-ray diffraction patterns of powders of this material at room temperature are significantly different from those of the stoichiometric trioxide and cannot be explained on the basis of only an oxygen-deficient trioxide structure. Actually, the existence of a substoichiometric region of  $\text{WO}_3$  was first suggested by Glemser and Sauer,<sup>3</sup> who reported that the basic structure of the  $\text{WO}_3$  phase extends to the composition  $\text{WO}_{2.96}$ . However, Hägg and Magneli<sup>4</sup> refer to a paper given by Westgren<sup>5</sup> in which is proposed the existence of a new oxide phase corresponding to approximately  $\text{WO}_{2.97}$ . Gado<sup>6</sup> has recently reported the existence of a phase between  $\text{W}_{20}\text{O}_{58}$  and  $\text{WO}_3$ . The structure at room temperature of the unit cell of the stoichiometric trioxide as reported by Andersson<sup>7</sup> and by previous investigators contains four  $\text{WO}_3$  units and has the space group  $\text{P}2_1/\text{a}$ ; however, the direct observations by

(1) Based on work performed under the auspices of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

(2) R. J. Ackermann and E. G. Rauh, *J. Phys. Chem.*, **67**, 2596 (1963).

(3) O. Glemser and H. Sauer, *Z. anorg. Chem.*, **252**, 144 (1943).

(4) G. Hägg and A. Magneli, *Arkiv Kemi, Mineral. Geol.*, **19A**, No. 2 (1944).

(5) A. Westgren, *Nord. Naturforskersamfundet Helsingfors*, **89** (1936).

(6) P. Gado, *Acta Cryst.*, **16**, Part 13, A182 (1963).

(7) G. Andersson, *Acta Chem. Scand.*, **7**, 154 (1953).

Tanisaki<sup>8</sup> of weak first- and third-order layer lines on rotation photographs, taken with the  $c$  axis rotating, indicate a unit cell containing eight  $\text{WO}_3$  units with a  $P2_1/n$  space group and a  $c$  axis which is twice that of Andersson's. Since there appear to be a number of divergent conclusions dealing with the trioxide and its region of substoichiometry the present investigation was undertaken in an attempt to contribute to a greater understanding by means of a further analysis of this rather complicated system. In the present investigation the conclusions are to be drawn from both powder and single crystal diffraction data and measured densities obtained at room temperature and chemical analyses.

### Experimental Section

The samples of tungsten oxides corresponding to the range of composition  $\text{WO}_3$ - $\text{WO}_{2.96}$  used in this investigation were prepared *via* two methods. In the first, the composition  $\text{WO}_{2.96}$  resulted from the reduction of stoichiometric trioxide in the interval of 1050-1225° under vacuum and in the second the reaction of the appropriate amounts of trioxide and metal powders at 1250-1300° under a purified argon atmosphere produced apparently homogeneous products of the desired composition. In the former method the samples employed were the actual residues ( $\text{O}/\text{W} = 2.963$ ) of the effusion measurements described by Ackermann and Rauh.<sup>2</sup> The samples produced after several hours of heating *in vacuo* ( $\sim 10^{-7}$  mm.) possessed a deep, dark blue color and contained fine, dark needles which appeared to be well-defined single crystals. However, the degree of crystalline size and homogeneity of these residues appeared to be somewhat unsatisfactory because of the relatively poor definition of high angle reflections in the powder patterns. Additional heating for about 1 hr. under vacuum at approximately 1050° generally enhanced the definition of these reflections. It was impractical to heat for longer periods of time in order to obtain larger crystals because of the great extent of free evaporation of the samples *in vacuo* at the temperatures involved. In order to prepare samples at higher temperatures, it was necessary to employ an argon atmosphere or sealed platinum capsules to reduce the rate of evaporation of the sample and thereby allow considerably longer periods of heating. Samples ( $\sim 10$  g.) of desired composition were synthesized by intimately mixing appropriate weights of tungsten and tungsten trioxide powders and allowing these to react at 1250-1300° in a platinum tube containing an argon atmosphere that was initially purified of water vapor and oxygen by means of columns of magnesium perchlorate and hot copper chips, respectively. The use of platinum as an inert container has been previously demonstrated.<sup>2</sup> Before the introduction of the sample, the platinum tube was outgassed *in vacuo* at 1300°. In spite of these precautions, oxidation of the top portion of some of the sample occurred. The lower portions of the samples were subsequently analyzed by the combustion of a weighed sample (2 to 3 g.) in air at 800° until constant weight was achieved and the light yellow-green color of the stoichiometric trioxide was obtained. The reproducibility of this method of preparation and analysis was generally sufficient to establish the atom ratio within  $\pm 0.005$ . Samples having the composition  $\text{O}/\text{W} = 2.960 \pm 0.005$  that were heated for periods of 2 days, 2 weeks, and 6 weeks yielded identical powder patterns that showed excellent definition at high diffraction angles. Progressively larger crystals resulted with the increase in time of heating and the crystals obtained in this manner were in general twinned about the axis of rotation. However, distinct differences in the powder patterns were noted when a comparison was made with the patterns of the fine needles obtained in the residues of the vacuum reduction of  $\text{WO}_3$ . The samples resulting from both methods of preparation had the typical slippery "graphite-like" quality upon grinding

which is usually characteristic of a layer-type structure. In the course of the syntheses of samples,  $\text{O}/\text{W} = 2.99, 2.98, 2.97,$  and  $2.96$ , it was apparent that as the atom ratio is decreased from 3.00 the color of the sample evolved through blue-green to a deep blue at  $\text{O}/\text{W} = 2.96$ .

The densities of samples of various compositions were measured by a pycnometric method. In order to minimize the effect of trapped gases in isolated voids in the finely powdered samples which causes the incomplete filling of the pycnometer by the immersing fluid and, hence, leads to low values of the density, the following precautions were taken. The samples (approximately 2 g.) were loaded into the pycnometer (2 ml.) which was then evacuated slowly in a modified vacuum desiccator. The immersing fluid, namely water to which was added a small amount of aerosol to decrease its surface tension but not affecting its density, was then added to the sample under vacuum by means of a separatory funnel attached to the desiccator through a rubber stopper. After the sample was completely immersed, it was gently boiled under vacuum by means of a heat lamp, then removed from the desiccator and centrifuged in order to precipitate any small particles suspended in the meniscus. The remaining operations including the weighings were done in the conventional manner. All weighings were performed after the pycnometer and contents had been equilibrated to 24-25°.

### Determination of Lattice Parameters and Structures

**Powder Measurements.**—A comparison of the low angle diffraction lines of samples of stoichiometric and substoichiometric tungsten trioxide obtained with copper  $K\alpha$  radiation is made in Table I. A close correspondence in both  $d$  values and intensities for the reduction of  $\text{WO}_3$  to  $\text{WO}_{2.98}$  indicates that the tungsten atoms retain essentially the same relative positions, although for the latter composition the  $d$  values are considerably larger, indicating an enlargement of the unit cell with respect to the subcell of  $\text{WO}_3$  based on the structure by Tanisaki.<sup>8</sup> Similar measurements of a sample  $\text{WO}_{2.99}$  yielded  $d$  spacings that were between those of  $\text{WO}_3$  and  $\text{WO}_{2.95}$ . Hence, the tungsten subcell is of the same type in the  $\text{WO}_3$ - $\text{WO}_{2.98}$  region. One immediately sees that the diffraction patterns for materials of composition  $\text{WO}_{2.96}$  are vastly more detailed than those of  $\text{WO}_3$  and  $\text{WO}_{2.98}$ . Since the films of  $\text{WO}_{2.96}$  showed more clearly the greater complexity of the powder patterns, film measurements of this composition are reported in Table I. The sample of  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\alpha)$  is one of the actual residues of the vapor pressures measurements of Ackermann and Rauh, which was produced by heating initially stoichiometric trioxide *in vacuo* at 1050-1225°. The material  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\beta)$  resulted from direct synthesis of tungsten and tungsten trioxide powders at 1250-1300° under an argon atmosphere followed by rapid quenching. The  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\beta)$  pattern can be readily distinguished from that of  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\alpha)$  by the prominent line which is located between two strong lines at  $d = 3.760$  in the former compared with the faint line at  $d = 3.71$  in the latter, by the closer packing of the two prominent lines in the region of  $d = 2.65$ , and by the intensity differences and the lesser number of lines in the region of  $d = 1.94$ - $1.80$ . In general the powder patterns of  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\beta)$  had fewer and better defined reflections.

The conversion of the  $\beta$  to the  $\alpha$  phase was accomplished by heating *in vacuo* at about 1100° for several

(8) S. Tanisaki, *J. Phys. Soc. Japan*, **15**, 573 (1960).

TABLE I  
COMPARISON OF INTENSITIES AND INTERPLANAR SPACINGS FOR  
SAMPLES OF  $WO_{3-x}$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.04$ )

$WO_3$		$WO_{2.98}$		$WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$				$WO_{2.96}(\beta)$			
$I^A$	$d(\text{\AA})^A$	$I^B$	$d(\text{\AA})^B$	$I^A$	$d(\text{\AA})^A$	$I$	$d(\text{\AA})$	$I^B$	$d(\text{\AA})^B$	$I$	$d(\text{\AA})$
S	3.835	S	3.872	VVVW	6.00	VVVW	2.01	VVVW	4.47	VW	1.833
				VVVW	5.61	VVVW	1.97	VW	3.857	W	1.802
MS	3.757	MS	3.795	VVVW	5.48	W	1.942	S	3.824	VW	1.719
				VVVW	4.73	W	1.908	VW	3.760	VW	1.714
S	3.646	S	3.678	VVVW	4.37	MW	1.867	S	3.654	W	1.700
				W	4.122	VW	1.827	VVVW	3.49	VVVW	1.679
VW	3.363	VW	3.388	VW	3.890	VW	1.801	VVVW	3.33	M	1.671
				MS	3.784	VVVW	1.76	VVVW	3.20	VW	1.649
W	3.345	W	3.368	VVVW	3.71	VW	1.733	W	3.104	VVVW	1.62
				S	3.632	W	1.693	W	3.078	VW	1.560
W	3.123	W	3.136	VVVW	3.50	M	1.676	VVVW	2.91	W	1.540
				VVVW	3.26	W	1.650	VVVW	2.85	W	1.532
W	3.082	W	3.117	VW	3.109	VW	1.560	VVVW	2.77	VW	1.514
				VVVW	3.07	VW	1.545	VW	2.722	VVVW	1.505
M	2.690	M	2.706	VVVW	2.97	W	1.535	M	2.671	VW	1.488
				VVVW	2.80	VW	1.516	M	2.640	VVVW	1.477
W	2.666	W	2.667	VVVW	2.73	VVVW	1.49	VVVW	2.58	VVVW	1.38
				M	2.693	VVVW	1.47	VVVW	2.50	VVVW	1.36
M	2.624	M	2.635	MW	2.636	VVVW	1.45	VVVW	2.43	W	1.336
				VVVW	2.58	VVVW	1.41	VVVW	2.29	VVVW	1.33
VW	2.531	VW	2.537	VW	2.477	VVVW	1.38	VVVW	2.22	VVVW	1.31
				VVVW	2.33	VW	1.365	MW	2.188	VVVW	1.30
				VVVW	2.24	VW	1.349	VVVW	2.14	VVVW	1.28
				MW	2.198	VW	1.338	VVVW	2.10	VW	1.265
				VVVW	2.15	VVVW	1.32	VVVW	2.01	VW	1.262
				VVVW	2.11	VVVW	1.29	VVVW	1.98		
				VVVW	2.08			MW	1.916		
				VVVW	2.06			MW	1.857		

<sup>a</sup> Evaluated from photographic films. <sup>b</sup> Evaluated from diffractometer tracings.

days a sample of the  $\beta$  phase which had been sealed in a platinum capsule under an inert atmosphere. The powder pattern of the sample which had been quenched to room temperature proved to be the same as that resulting from the residue of the effusion studies, *i.e.*, only the  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$  phase was observed. The reversal of this transformation was accomplished by heating a sample of the  $\alpha$  phase at  $1290^\circ$  for several hours followed by the rapid withdrawal of the capsule from the hot zone of the furnace, which permitted the successful quenching of the  $\beta$  phase as evidenced by the powder pattern subsequently taken. Although these experiments were of an exploratory nature in that the transition temperature has not been precisely established, it is apparent that the  $\beta$  phase is a high temperature form of the  $\alpha$  phase. The polymorphic relation of the two phases is also supported by the reduction in the number of faint low-angle lines in the  $\beta$  phase which suggests a smaller and/or more symmetrical unit cell. Powder studies of the material  $WO_{2.97}$  indicated a two-phase mixture of the  $WO_{2.96}$  and the  $WO_{3-x}$  structural types. The powder studies therefore suggest some interesting structural changes, in particular in the

positions of the tungsten atoms, that occur in the relatively narrow composition range between  $WO_3$  and  $WO_{2.96}$ .

**Single Crystal Measurements.** (1)  $WO_{3.00}$ .—Single crystal photographs taken of stoichiometric trioxide confirmed the necessity of doubling Andersson's value<sup>7</sup> of the  $c$  axis as recently reported by Tanisaki.<sup>8</sup> The values of the monoclinic parameters agree (see Table IV) within experimental error with those reported by Tanisaki, from which parameters one calculates a theoretical density of  $7.294 \text{ g./cm.}^3$ . The density measured pycnometrically in this investigation is  $7.286 \text{ g./cm.}^3$ .

(2)  $WO_{2.98}$ .—The substoichiometric trioxide having the composition  $WO_{2.98}$  was composed of dark blue-green crystals that were semitransparent plates or short cylinders. These crystals did not have the graphite-like quality when ground that was very noticeable in the case of the  $WO_{2.96}$  materials. Single crystal photographs showed a monoclinic cell belonging to the space group  $P2_1/m$ . The Weissenberg photographs of the various layers were quite similar to those obtained for  $WO_{3.00}$  although there was no indication of the doubling of the  $c$  axis as observed for the stoichiometric trioxide. By assigning equal weight to each reflection in a least-squares treatment of diffractometer measurements of a powder sample, one obtains the cell parameters:  $a = 7.354 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA.}$ ,  $b = 7.569 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA.}$ ,  $c = 3.854 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA.}$ , and  $\beta \cong 90.6^\circ$ . These parameters correspond to a unit cell containing four tungsten atoms and a calculated density of  $7.174 \text{ g./cm.}^3$ , which compares favorably with a measured density of  $7.162 \text{ g./cm.}^3$ . In two samples having over-all compositions  $WO_{2.981}$  and  $WO_{2.983}$  there were a number of black needle crystals that proved to be the  $WO_{2.96}$  structural type although the powder patterns taken of these samples failed to show the presence of this additional phase because of its low concentration.

(3)  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$ .—The preliminary study of powder samples had shown significant differences in both intensities and diffraction angles from the  $WO_3$ -type subcell which are indicative of a basic change in structure. The further elucidation of these structural differences was accomplished by measurements of single crystals obtained from the evaporation residues of a previous investigation.<sup>2</sup> Some of these crystals were unsatisfactory because they gave rise to streaking of the reciprocal lattice points. Equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs were taken of a needle having the dimensions  $0.005 \times 0.017 \times 0.404 \text{ mm.}$ , with  $Cu K\alpha$  radiation using the multiple film technique. Using the lines of copper powder as an internal standard the following cell dimensions were obtained from rotation and Weissenberg films:  $a = 11.90 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA.}$ ,  $b = 3.826 \pm 0.012 \text{ \AA.}$ ,  $c = 59.64 \pm 0.06 \text{ \AA.}$ ,  $\beta = 98.4^\circ$ ,  $\alpha = \gamma = 90^\circ$ . The measured density of  $7.126 \text{ g./cm.}^3$  and the determination of the chemical composition  $O/W = 2.96$  indicates the presence of 50 tungsten and 148 oxygen atoms in the unit cell. The theoretical density is  $7.144 \text{ g./cm.}^3$ .

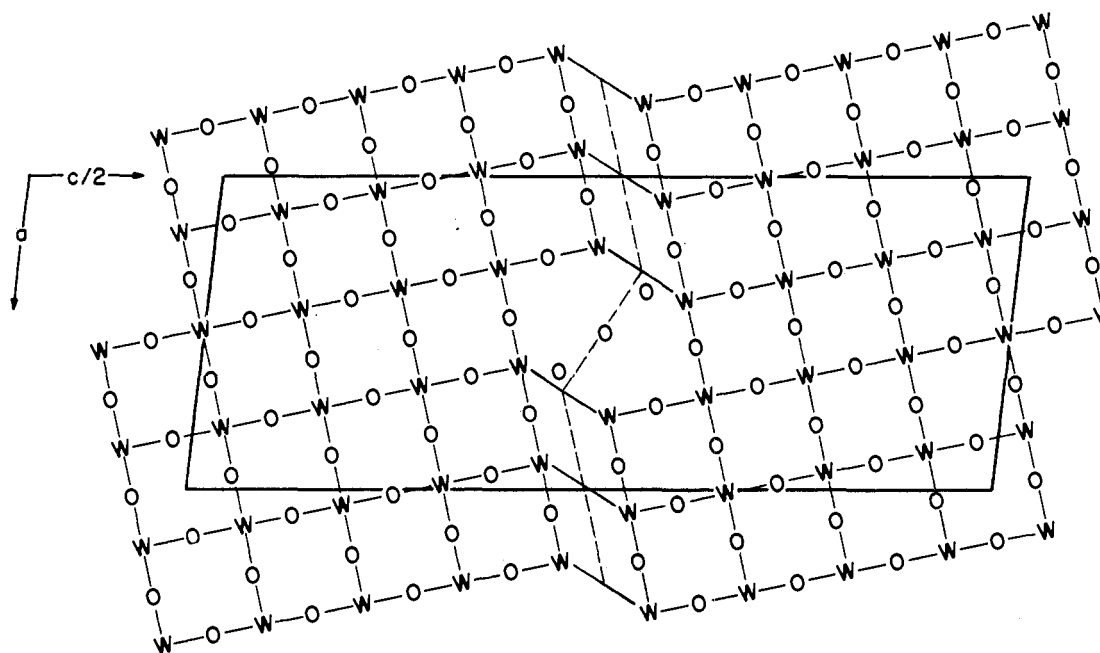


Figure 1.—010 projection of the proposed structure of  $\text{WO}_{2.96}(\alpha)$ .

Weak reflections on the  $h1l$  and  $h2l$  layers were observed when  $l = 2n + 1$ , which requires that the  $y$  coordinate cannot be 0 or  $1/2$ . The systematic absence of  $h0l$  reflections when  $l = 2n + 1$  indicated the space groups  $P2/c-C_{2h}^4$  and  $Pc-C_s^2$ . The mean value of the experimentally-derived normalized structure factor,  $E = 0.75$ , compared with theoretical values of 0.798 and 0.886 for centric and acentric space groups, respectively, indicates that the centric  $P2/c$  is the preferred one. When a single crystal was rotated about the  $b$  axis, the layer-line films showed sequences of reflections lying on the reciprocal net centering about the locations of reflections for a corresponding layer-line film of  $\text{WO}_{3.00}$ . There was a gradual loss of intensity as the distance from the location of the corresponding  $\text{WO}_{3.00}$  reflection increased. The intensity relationships on the  $h1l$  and  $h2l$  layers generally paralleled those of the  $h0l$ 's.

The intensities were measured by visual comparison with an intensity strip. The intensities were corrected for Lorentz polarization and scaled by the data reduction program of Norment.<sup>9</sup> A Patterson projection of  $h0l$  was made using the Sly-Shoemaker Fourier program.<sup>10</sup> Placing the tungsten atoms in locations suggested by the Patterson projection corresponding to 2(b) and 4(g) of  $P2/c$ , calculation of the structure factor was made with the Busing-Levy least-squares program.<sup>11,12</sup> Arbitrary weights of 5, 4.5, and 4 for

strong, weak, and unobserved reflections, respectively, were assigned to the values of  $F_o$ . The reliability factor

$$R = \frac{\sum ||F_c| - |F_o||}{\sum |F_o|} = 0.19$$

was obtained for the  $h0l$  layer.

A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis indicated that  $y = 0$  or  $1/2$  which is impossible since  $hkl$  reflections occurred when  $l \neq 2n$ . A Patterson projection of  $0kl$  data, badly affected by absorption and limited in number, indicated that all the  $y$  coordinates are not in equivalent positions, *i.e.*, do not form two planes of tungsten atoms. When the  $y$ 's were inserted at various sets of locations in either 4(g) of  $P2/c$  or 2(a) of  $Pc$  an over-all minimum value of  $R \approx 0.28$  was obtained for all observed reflections from a least-squares treatment. However, the final  $y$  coordinates were not unique. The  $h2l$  layer often had an  $R$  factor approximately twice that obtained for the  $h1l$  layer. Difference Fouriers of observed reflections and difference Fouriers containing unobserved reflections which had been calculated as  $I_{\min}/3$  as suggested by Hamilton<sup>13</sup> were of no aid in uniquely locating the  $y$  coordinates. Although it was impossible to establish the  $y$  coordinates, it is suggested that they could be located in a number of planes staggered about  $y = 1/2$ . An alternative is the existence of microphases or regions within the crystal having different types of alignment of the staggered tungsten layers. Weak satellite reflections surrounding the most intense reflections in the Weissenberg photographs and the high  $R$  factor for the  $h0l$  layer indicate that there also may be significant misalignments among the domains within the single crystal even in the  $x-z$  plane. The 010 projection of one-half the unit cell of the proposed ordered-defect structure is shown in

(9) H. G. Norment, "An X-Ray Diffraction Data Reduction Program for the IBM 704 and 7090," Naval Research Laboratory Report 5739, Feb. 16, 1962.

(10) W. G. Sly and D. P. Shoemaker, "MIFRI, Two- and Three-Dimensional Crystallographic Fourier Summation Program for the IBM-704 Computer," Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Chemistry Technical Report, July 1, 1960.

(11) W. R. Busing and H. A. Levy, "A Crystallographic Least-Squares Refinement Program for the IBM 704," Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Central Files No. 59-4-37, April 14, 1960.

(12) W. R. Busing, K. O. Martin, and H. A. Levy, "OR FLS, A Fortran Crystallographic Least-Squares Program," Oak Ridge National Laboratory Report, ORNL-TM-305, Nov. 21, 1962.

(13) W. C. Hamilton, *Acta Cryst.*, **8**, 185 (1955).

TABLE II  
 OBSERVED AND CALCULATED STRUCTURE FACTORS FOR  $W_{50}O_{148}$ 

h	L		H		h	L		H		h	L		H	
	$F_o$	$ F_c $	$F_o$	$ F_c $		$F_o$	$ F_c $	$F_o$	$ F_c $		$F_o$	$ F_c $	$F_o$	$ F_c $
1	2098	2431	2100	315	1	110	159	110	159	1	110	159	110	159
2	1574	594	947	1872	2	403	309	403	309	2	403	309	403	309
3	174	631	1080	653	3	2456	2193	2456	2193	3	2456	2193	2456	2193
4	186	231	1080	653	4	728	582	728	582	4	728	582	728	582
5	174	631	1080	653	5	255	202	255	202	5	255	202	255	202
6	186	231	1080	653	6	173	111	173	111	6	173	111	173	111
7	174	631	1080	653	7	160	100	160	100	7	160	100	160	100
8	186	231	1080	653	8	257	250	257	250	8	257	250	257	250
9	174	631	1080	653	9	160	100	160	100	9	160	100	160	100
10	186	231	1080	653	10	257	250	257	250	10	257	250	257	250
11	174	631	1080	653	11	160	100	160	100	11	160	100	160	100
12	186	231	1080	653	12	257	250	257	250	12	257	250	257	250
13	174	631	1080	653	13	160	100	160	100	13	160	100	160	100
14	186	231	1080	653	14	257	250	257	250	14	257	250	257	250
15	174	631	1080	653	15	160	100	160	100	15	160	100	160	100
16	186	231	1080	653	16	257	250	257	250	16	257	250	257	250
17	174	631	1080	653	17	160	100	160	100	17	160	100	160	100
18	186	231	1080	653	18	257	250	257	250	18	257	250	257	250
19	174	631	1080	653	19	160	100	160	100	19	160	100	160	100
20	186	231	1080	653	20	257	250	257	250	20	257	250	257	250
21	174	631	1080	653	21	160	100	160	100	21	160	100	160	100
22	186	231	1080	653	22	257	250	257	250	22	257	250	257	250
23	174	631	1080	653	23	160	100	160	100	23	160	100	160	100
24	186	231	1080	653	24	257	250	257	250	24	257	250	257	250
25	174	631	1080	653	25	160	100	160	100	25	160	100	160	100
26	186	231	1080	653	26	257	250	257	250	26	257	250	257	250
27	174	631	1080	653	27	160	100	160	100	27	160	100	160	100
28	186	231	1080	653	28	257	250	257	250	28	257	250	257	250
29	174	631	1080	653	29	160	100	160	100	29	160	100	160	100
30	186	231	1080	653	30	257	250	257	250	30	257	250	257	250
31	174	631	1080	653	31	160	100	160	100	31	160	100	160	100
32	186	231	1080	653	32	257	250	257	250	32	257	250	257	250
33	174	631	1080	653	33	160	100	160	100	33	160	100	160	100
34	186	231	1080	653	34	257	250	257	250	34	257	250	257	250
35	174	631	1080	653	35	160	100	160	100	35	160	100	160	100
36	186	231	1080	653	36	257	250	257	250	36	257	250	257	250
37	174	631	1080	653	37	160	100	160	100	37	160	100	160	100
38	186	231	1080	653	38	257	250	257	250	38	257	250	257	250
39	174	631	1080	653	39	160	100	160	100	39	160	100	160	100
40	186	231	1080	653	40	257	250	257	250	40	257	250	257	250
41	174	631	1080	653	41	160	100	160	100	41	160	100	160	100
42	186	231	1080	653	42	257	250	257	250	42	257	250	257	250
43	174	631	1080	653	43	160	100	160	100	43	160	100	160	100
44	186	231	1080	653	44	257	250	257	250	44	257	250	257	250
45	174	631	1080	653	45	160	100	160	100	45	160	100	160	100
46	186	231	1080	653	46	257	250	257	250	46	257	250	257	250
47	174	631	1080	653	47	160	100	160	100	47	160	100	160	100
48	186	231	1080	653	48	257	250	257	250	48	257	250	257	250
49	174	631	1080	653	49	160	100	160	100	49	160	100	160	100
50	186	231	1080	653	50	257	250	257	250	50	257	250	257	250

<sup>a</sup> The first and second columns of structure factor values contain  $F_o$  and  $|F_c|$  for  $h0l$ ; the third and fourth columns contain  $F_o$  for  $h1l$  and  $h2l$ , respectively.

 TABLE III  
 TUNGSTEN POSITIONS IN THE UNIT CELL  $W_{50}O_{148}$ 

Positions <sup>a</sup>	X	Y	Z
2 in 2(b)	0.5	0.5	0.0
4 in 4(g)	0.127	$y_1$	0.037
4 in 4(g)	0.374	$y_2$	0.299
4 in 4(g)	0.060	$y_3$	0.101
4 in 4(g)	0.371	$y_4$	0.118
4 in 4(g)	0.429	$y_5$	0.061
4 in 4(g)	0.064	$y_6$	0.276
4 in 4(g)	0.003	$y_7$	0.341
4 in 4(g)	0.186	$y_8$	0.476
4 in 4(g)	0.268	$y_9$	0.245
4 in 4(g)	0.310	$y_{10}$	0.184
4 in 4(g)	0.239	$y_{11}$	0.420
4 in 4(g)	0.309	$y_{12}$	0.356

<sup>a</sup> If the true space group is Pc, then the y coordinate in 2(b) is undetermined and 4(g) becomes 2(a) with another set of 12 positions at  $\bar{x} \bar{y} \bar{z}$  corresponding to those given for 4(g).

Figure 1. Observed and calculated values of the structure factor for  $h0l$  reflections and observed values for the  $h1l$  and  $h2l$  are given in Table II. A value of 0.12 was used for an over-all, isotropic temperature factor. The  $x$  and  $z$  coordinates of the 50 tungsten atoms in the unit cell are given in Table III.

(4)  $WO_{2.96}(\beta)$ .—The single crystal measurements and structure determination of this phase are not complete at the present time; however, a discussion of some of the preliminary findings seems quite pertinent. Microscopic examination of this polycrystalline material showed that many of the smaller needles were bent

and the crystallite size was generally larger than previously obtained for  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$ . The larger crystals were due to the longer period of heating at a relatively higher temperature. Initially all of the crystals selected for single crystal measurements were twinned. Ultimately a single crystal was selected from a sample that had been heated 6 weeks at approximately 1250° under an argon atmosphere. A powder photograph of a sample of this material proved to be that of the  $WO_{2.96}(\beta)$  phase shown in Table I. The  $b$  axis rotation photographs of the crystal appeared to be similar to that of  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$ . The Weissenberg photographs were very similar to those of  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$  although visual inspection revealed a more rapid decrease in intensity for  $hkl$  reflections when  $l = 2n$ . When  $l \neq 2n$  the reflections were absent, indicating  $y = 1/2$  which is contrary to the findings for the  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$  crystals. This observation would appear to confirm the previous observation that the  $WO_{2.96}(\beta)$  is a more symmetrical version of  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$  because the former was found to be a higher temperature polymorph of the latter. These preliminary findings suggest that the  $c$  axis is the length of the  $c$  axis in  $WO_{2.96}(\alpha)$  and the space group is P2/m. The  $xz$  projection of the unit cell containing the formula  $W_{25}O_{74}$  is very likely that in Figure 1 with the tungsten atoms lying in a plane with the origin at  $x = 1/2$ .

As was previously mentioned crystals of the  $WO_{2.96}$  structural type were present in samples of  $WO_{2.931}$

TABLE IV  
 COMPARISON OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC PARAMETERS OF TUNGSTEN OXIDES

Chemical compn.	Formula of unit cell	<i>a</i> , Å.	<i>b</i> , Å.	<i>c</i> , Å.	$\beta$	$\rho_{\text{calcd.}}$ , g. cm. <sup>-3</sup>	$\rho_{\text{measd.}}$ , g. cm. <sup>-3</sup>	Ref.
WO <sub>3</sub>	W <sub>8</sub> O <sub>24</sub>	7.30	7.53	7.68	90.9°	7.294	7.286	8
WO <sub>2.98</sub>	W <sub>4</sub> O <sub>12-x</sub>	7.354	7.569	3.854	90.6°	7.169	7.162	This study
WO <sub>2.96</sub> ( $\alpha$ )	W <sub>50</sub> O <sub>148</sub>	11.90	3.826	59.64	98.4°	7.144	7.126	This study
WO <sub>2.96</sub> ( $\beta$ )	W <sub>25</sub> O <sub>74</sub>	~11.90	~3.826	~29.82	~98.4°			This study
WO <sub>2.90</sub>	W <sub>20</sub> O <sub>58</sub>	12.05	3.767	23.59	95.72°	7.163	7.15	<i>b</i>
WO <sub>2.72</sub>	W <sub>18</sub> O <sub>49</sub>	18.28	3.775	13.98	115.14°	7.781	7.958 <sup>c</sup>	<i>c</i>
WO <sub>2</sub>	W <sub>4</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	5.650	4.892	5.550	120.42	10.82	...	<i>d</i>

<sup>a</sup> Measured in this investigation for a sample having the composition WO<sub>2.727</sub>. <sup>b</sup> A. Magneli, *Arkiv. Kemi*, 1, 513 (1949). <sup>c</sup> A. Magneli, *ibid.*, 1, 223 (1949). <sup>d</sup> A. Magneli, *Arkiv Kemi, Mineral. Geol.*, 24A, No. 2 (1946).

and WO<sub>2.983</sub> which were prepared at approximately 1250°. Weissenberg photographs of several of these crystals indicated intensities for *hkl* reflections for *l* = 2*n* that were only slightly different from WO<sub>2.96</sub>( $\alpha$ ) and cell dimensions that appeared to be the same within the precision of measurement. The intensities were noticeably much weaker for *hkl* reflections when *l*  $\neq$  2*n*, which indicates a greater ordering of the tungsten planes with the *y* coordinate nearer 1/2 than in WO<sub>2.96</sub>( $\alpha$ ). Hence, the degree of staggering of the tungsten atoms about *y* = 1/2 for these crystals appears to be between that of WO<sub>2.96</sub>( $\alpha$ ) and WO<sub>2.96</sub>( $\beta$ ) and suggests that the mechanism of the  $\alpha$ - $\beta$  phase transition may involve successive stages of unpuckering of the tungsten planes.

### Discussion

There are several interesting features of the proposed structure of WO<sub>2.96</sub>( $\alpha$ ) which can be seen by reference to Figure 1. Each unit cell in the projected plane contains two ordered defects having the shape of a distorted hexagon. These defects are bisected by a recurrent dislocation plane shown by the dotted line. The W-W distance across this plane is considerably shorter than those elsewhere in the structure and, hence, there are probably no oxygen atoms interleaved between the tungsten atoms in this plane. It is assumed that the tungsten atoms not in this plane are surrounded by a distorted octahedron of oxygen atoms. In these aspects the structure is similar to those of other tungsten and molybdenum oxides.<sup>14</sup> However, based on the number of tungsten atoms found in the unit cell and the number of oxygen atoms required by the composition WO<sub>2.96</sub>, it is necessary to insert oxygen atoms at *x*  $\simeq$  1/2, *y*  $\simeq$  0, *z*  $\simeq$  1/4, 3/4. The presence of these atoms requires that two of the tungsten atoms in the region of the defect be coordinated with seven oxygen atoms, probably forming pentagonal bipyramids as pointed out by Kihlberg<sup>15</sup> for other molybdenum and tungsten oxides. The three-dimensional defect channels, therefore, cannot be open holes as in the case of W<sub>20</sub>O<sub>58</sub> and other known structures.<sup>15</sup>

The Weissenberg films were extremely difficult to measure not only because of the inherent difficulties in a large unit cell but also because of the large areas of no reflections on the reciprocal lattice. Of a possible 4080

reflections only 903 were observed. Furthermore, surrounding the most intense reflections were weak satellite reflections which are indications of crystal imperfection and disorder. The presence of this disorder is an additional factor which permits only a two-rather than three-dimensional solution of the crystal structure. A method of preparation of more perfect crystals at somewhat lower temperatures is believed necessary for any future study.

The results of the diffractometer measurements indicate that the trioxide phase can become substoichiometric down to WO<sub>2.98</sub>. The single crystal measurements, however, indicate some subtle variations with composition change. The unit cell of WO<sub>2.98</sub> at room temperature is slightly larger than the corresponding tungsten subcell of stoichiometric WO<sub>3</sub>. In the latter case the results of Tanisaki<sup>8</sup> confirmed in this study indicate two kinds of WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra. When oxygen is randomly removed from this structure to form WO<sub>2.98</sub> these two octahedra appear to become indistinguishable. Certain features of the high-temperature phase diagram based on vaporization phenomena proposed by Ackermann and Rauh<sup>2</sup> can now be further clarified. Since there exist quite pronounced differences in the structures of WO<sub>2.96</sub> and WO<sub>2.98</sub>, and since powder patterns of the composition WO<sub>2.97</sub> quenched from 1200° appear to be a two-phase mixture, a miscibility gap probably extends up to at least this temperature. There also appears to be a correlation between the incongruent evaporation of the composition WO<sub>2.98</sub> at temperatures above approximately 1250° and the  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  phase transformation which occurs in the same region of temperature. The higher symmetry of the tungsten planes in the  $\beta$  phase is very likely a manifestation of a decrease in the strength of the W-O bond which permits the preferential loss of oxygen and the formation of the W<sub>20</sub>O<sub>58</sub> phase in which the tungsten planes are completely unpuckered.<sup>14</sup>

A comparison of the crystallographic parameters of presently known tungsten oxides is presented in Table IV. Close agreement between the calculated and measured values of the density is seen in all cases except those for W<sub>18</sub>O<sub>49</sub>. The crystal density passes through a distinct minimum for the W<sub>50</sub>O<sub>148</sub> phase in disagreement with earlier work reported by Glemser and Sauer<sup>3</sup> which shows a gradual increase from WO<sub>3</sub> to WO<sub>2</sub>. The earlier work, however, must be viewed with some reservation because the value reported for a mix-

(14) A. Magneli, *Acta Cryst.*, 6, 495 (1953).

(15) L. Kihlberg, *Arkiv Kemi*, 21, 471 (1963).

ture of  $W_{20}O_{88}$  and  $W_{18}O_{49}$  (over-all composition  $WO_{2.82}$ ) is significantly greater than the values reported for each of the nearly pure phases.

The existence of additional defect structures prepared under different conditions and having compositions differing only slightly from that of  $WO_{2.96}$  remains a distinct possibility. The recent observations by Gado<sup>6,16</sup> indicate a structure which is quite different from that

(16) P. Gado, Research Institute for Telecomm. Techn., Budapest, Hungary, private communication.

proposed here, and the observations by Kellett and Rogers<sup>17</sup> may indicate a new phase which is different from those previously observed.

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(17) E. A. Kellett and S. E. Rogers, *J. Electrochem. Soc.*, **110**, 502 (1963).

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## The Crystal Structure of Lanthanum Telluride and Tellurium-Deficient Neodymium Telluride<sup>1</sup>

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Single crystal X-ray diffraction studies of  $LaTe_2$  and  $NdTe_2$  and of the related tellurium-deficient compositions have confirmed the isomorphism with  $Fe_2As$  (C 38). Two different types of tellurium atoms exist in the structure. The atoms in the basal plane are essentially metallic in nature and give rise to the observed electrical properties. These are the atoms which can be removed from the structure to produce the tellurium-deficient compositions. This explains the increased electrical resistivity as well as the decrease in the length of the  $a$  axis and the increase in the length of the  $c$  axis observed for these compounds.

### Introduction

The crystal structure of  $LaTe_2$  was reported as isostructural with  $CeTe_2$  by Pardo, Flahaut, and Domange,<sup>2,3</sup> and both compounds appear to be isostructural with the  $Fe_2As$  structure, C 38.<sup>4</sup> Since lanthanum and cerium have atomic numbers which are close to the atomic number of tellurium, the differences in atomic scattering factors, especially after applying a dispersion correction, are small enough to prevent the unequivocal assignment of locations for these atoms. The previous structure investigations were based on data derived from powder patterns. Investigation of the structures of the two isomorphs  $NdTe_2$  and  $LaTe_2$  by means of single crystal techniques promises to locate definitely the atomic species. The neodymium compound, with the greater scattering factor difference, was also deficient in tellurium. It afforded a firm distribution of the atomic species among alternative equivalent position sets, which could then be applied to the  $LaTe_2$ .

### Experimental Section

Lanthanum and neodymium were treated with tellurium by a vapor-solid reaction in sealed Vycor tubing at 600° to yield com-

pounds having formulas  $LaTe_{2.0}$  and  $NdTe_{1.8}$ . The space group for these compounds is  $P4_2/nm$ , and the unit cell constants obtained from powder data are  $a = 4.507 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 9.128 \pm 0.010 \text{ \AA}$  for  $LaTe_{2.0}$  and  $a = 4.377 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 9.060 \pm 0.010 \text{ \AA}$  for  $NdTe_{1.8}$ ; there are 2 formula weights per unit cell. The room temperature variation of lattice constants  $c$ ,  $a$ , and  $c/a$  as a function of composition for the  $NdTe_{2-x}$  solid solution range has been reported by Lin, Steinfink, and Weiss.<sup>5</sup>

Single crystals of  $LaTe_{2.0}$  of dimensions  $0.07 \times 0.06 \times 0.007$  mm. and of the approximate composition  $NdTe_{1.8}$  of dimensions  $0.05 \times 0.04 \times 0.01$  mm. were mounted along the  $c$  axis. The three-dimensional intensity data from both crystals were collected with a G.E. XRD-5 single crystal orienter using  $Cu K\alpha$  radiation and a scintillation counter with pulse height discrimination. Absorption corrections were necessary because of the high linear absorption coefficients of  $LaTe_2$  and  $NdTe_2$ , 2126.7 and 2370.5  $cm^{-1}$ , respectively. The shapes of the somewhat irregular fragments were approximated by a small number of boundary planes, and the absorption corrections were computed by the Busing and Levy method.<sup>6</sup> This shape approximation of the fragment was rather idealized for the two large dimensions, making the  $hk0$  reflections subject to large absorption errors. In this structure the  $x$  and  $y$  parameters are fixed by symmetry so the  $hk0$  reflections were omitted from the refinement calculations.

The scattering factors of La, Nd, and Te were corrected for dispersion, isotropic as well as anisotropic temperature factors were used, and a full-matrix, least-squares refinement with unit weights was carried out based on the  $Fe_2As$  model.

### Structure Determination

Table I shows the final positional parameters and the anisotropic temperature factors together with their

(1) Research sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Office of Aerospace Research, United States Air Force, under AFOSR Grant No. 806-65.

(2) M. P. Pardo, J. Flahaut, and L. Domange, *Compt. rend.*, **266**, 953 (1963).

(3) M. P. Pardo, J. Flahaut, and L. Domange, *Bull. soc. chim. France*, 3267 (1964).

(4) A. F. Wells, *Structural Inorganic Chemistry*, 3rd Ed., Oxford University Press, London, 1961, p. 520.

(5) W. Lin, H. Steinfink, and E. J. Weiss, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 877 (1965).

(6) W. R. Busing and H. A. Levy, *Acta Cryst.*, **10**, 180 (1957).