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# Crystal Growth and Structure of Diantimony(III) Zinc Oxide 

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#### Abstract

ZnSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}\), tetragonal, space group $P 4_{2} / m b c$, $a=b=8.527$ (2), $c=5.942$ (2) $\AA, U=432.1$ (2) $\AA^{3}$, $Z=4, D_{c}=5.73 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$. Single crystals have been grown using $\mathrm{Sb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ as flux. The structure proposed by Stahl [Ark. Kemi, Mineral. Geol. (1943). 17B (5), 1-7] from powder data has been confirmed and refined to $R=0.015$ for 168 independent reflections. It consists of chains of twisted and elongated $\mathrm{ZnO}_{6}$ octahedra sharing opposite edges, these chains being linked by the Sb atoms, each with a pyramidal arrangement of three neighbouring O atoms.


Introduction. The crystal structure of $\mathrm{ZnSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ was studied by Stahl (1943) in a powdered sample. The atomic arrangement of $\mathrm{Pb}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ (space group $P 4_{2} / m b c$ ) was assumed, Sb and Zn replacing $\mathrm{Pb}^{\mathrm{II}}$ and $\mathrm{Pb}^{\mathrm{IV}}$ respectively. The positions of the O atoms were fixed from the $\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}$ distance, assumed to be $2.05 \AA$. The structure consists of $\mathrm{ZnO}_{6}$ octahedra linked together by opposite edges, forming chains in the direction of the $c$ axis, the chains being joined laterally by $\mathrm{SbO}_{3}$ pyramids connected with each other (Wells, 1975). There are two $\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}$ distances of $2.01 \AA$ and one of $1.87 \AA$, and two $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}$ bond angles of $100.1^{\circ}$ and one of $94.8^{\circ}$. More recently, single crystals of the isomorphous compound $\mathrm{MgSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ have been prepared from $\mathrm{MgCl}_{2} . \mathrm{KCl}$ flux by Giroux-Maraine \& Pérez (1975), who have established the atomic positions and isotropic temperature factors, refining the structure in
space group $P 4_{2} / m b c$ to $R=0.042$. Simultaneously Fischer \& Pertlik (1975) refined the structure of the mineral schafarzikite, $\mathrm{FeSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ with small amounts of Mn , in the same space group to $R=0.056$, with anisotropic temperature factors. As there are a good number of synthetic $A B_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ complex oxides isostructural with $\mathrm{ZnSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$, the present paper reports the refinement of the structure of this compound using data from a synthetic crystal.

After several fruitless attempts, $\mathrm{ZnSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ crystals were grown from analytical-grade reagents by reaction of ZnO and a large excess of $\mathrm{Sb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ in an evacuated and sealed quartz ampoule at 1023 K for 24 h , and then slowly decreasing the temperature to 873 K over a period of two days.

A colourless, approximately cubic crystal of 0.05 mm edge was examined at 291 K on a Nonius CAD-4F automatic diffractometer with graphitemonochromatized Mo $K a$ radiation $(\lambda=0.7107 \AA)$. The unit-cell parameters were obtained by least-squares refinement of the setting angles of 24 reflections with $19^{\circ}<2 \theta<48^{\circ}$.
Intensities were collected by $\omega-2 \theta$ scans, with scan rates varying from 1.8 to $6.7^{\circ}$ (2 $\theta$ ) $\mathrm{min}^{-1}$ so that weaker reflections were measured more slowly. The scan width varied from $1.2^{\circ}$ at low $2 \theta$ to $1.76^{\circ}$ at higher angles. There was no appreciable drop in intensity of three standard reflections, checked every hour. 1566 reflections within half a sphere with $2^{\circ}<$

Table 1. Atomic coordinates ( $\times 10^{4}$ for Zn and O ; $\times 10^{5}$ for Sb ) with e.s.d.'s in parentheses and equivalent isotropic temperature factors $\left(\AA^{2} \times 10^{3}\right)$

|  |  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eg }}{ }^{*}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zn | 4(d) | 0 | 5000 | 2500 | 9 |
| Sb | $8(h)$ | 32218 (5) | 33622 (6) | 0 | 9 |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $8(h)$ | 963 (6) | 3600 (6) | 0 | 9 |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | 8(g) | 1804 (8) | 6804 (8) | 2500 | 15 |

$\theta<25^{\circ}$ were measured, resulting in 208 unique reflections, 172 of which had $I>2 \sigma(I)$ and were considered as observed. The intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. No absorption correction was applied [ $\mu R=0.9, \mu($ Mo $K \bar{\alpha})=18.06$ $\left.\mathrm{mm}^{-1}\right]$. The systematic absences were $0 k l$ for $k$ odd and $h h l$ for $l$ odd. The two possible space groups are the centrosymmetric $P 4_{2} / m b c$ and the non-centrosymmetric $P 4_{2} b c$. The centrosymmetric space group $\mathrm{P4}_{2} / m b c$ was chosen from the statistical distribution of intensities. Confirmation was obtained in the course of the structure refinement. The scattering factors for neutral atoms and anomalous-dispersion corrections for Sb and Zn were taken from International Tables for $X$-ray Crystallography (1974). The Zn and Sb atoms were initially situated in the $4(d)$ and $8(h)$ positions determined by Stahl (1943), and the $O$ atoms in $8(h)$ and $8(g)$ were located from a difference Fourier synthesis. Anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement with unit weights led to $R=0.018$. At this stage four reflections affected by extinction were omitted. No trend in $\Delta F v S$ $F_{o}$ or $\sin \theta / \lambda$ was observed. Final $R=0.015$ for 168 reflections. Atomic parameters are listed in Table 1.*

Discussion. As the melting point of $\mathrm{Sb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ is 929 K at normal pressure, the reaction is thought to be between solid ZnO and liquid $\mathrm{Sb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$, the excess of this acting as solvent for the complex oxide, which is crystallized by slow cooling.

It has been confirmed that the structure, illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, consists of $\mathrm{ZnO}_{6}$ octahedra sharing opposite edges, these chains being linked by the Sb atoms, each with a pyramidal arrangement of three neighbours. However, the coordination geometries of Zn and Sb are not regular (Table 2). Moreover, the $\mathrm{ZnO}_{6}$ octahedra along the chain are twisted, as can be deduced from the torsion angle $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{Zn}^{\prime}=$ $165 \cdot 43(11)^{\circ}\left[\mathrm{Zn}^{\prime}\right.$ at $(x, y,-z) \mid$.

[^0]

Fig. 1. View along the $c$ axis of the unit cell of $\mathrm{ZnSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$. Only the atoms of one asymmetric unit are labelled.

(a)

(b)

Fig. 2. Coordination polyhedra of (a) Zn and (b) Sb .

Table 2. Bond lengths $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ for $\mathrm{ZnSb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ with e.s.d.'s in parentheses

| $\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $2.075(4)$ | $\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $1.937(5)$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $-\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $2.176(5)$ | $-\mathrm{O}\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ | $1.993(5)$ |

Relative position of the third atom

| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $97.3(2)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}\left(1^{\text {iv }}\right)$ | $165.4(2)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | ---: |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}\left(2^{\text {II }}\right)$ | 180 | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}\left(2^{\text {i }}\right)$ | $93.4(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}\left(1^{\text {li }}\right)$ | $93.3(1)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}\left(2^{\mathrm{v}}\right)$ | $93.4(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}\left(1^{\text {III }}\right)$ | $88.6(1)$ | $\mathrm{O}\left(2^{\mathrm{i}}\right)-\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}\left(2^{\mathrm{v}}\right)$ | $96.4(1)$ |

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

The sum of the radii of Zn and O (Shannon \& Prewitt, 1969, 1970) agrees with the mean measured $\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}$ distance, $2 \cdot 11 \AA$. As the mean $\mathrm{Sb}-\mathrm{O}$ distance is $1.97 \AA$, the $\mathrm{Sb}^{\text {II }}$ radius for pyramidal coordination can be estimated to be $0.61 \AA$.

The cell volume per anion, ignoring the volumes of Zn and Sb , is $27.0 \AA^{3}$, approximately equal to those calculated from the unit-cell parameters (Svensson, 1974; Almin \& Westgren, 1942) for orthorhombic and cubic $\mathrm{Sb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}, 27.6$ and $28.9 \AA^{3}$, respectively. According to Galy, Meunier, Andersson \& Áström (1975), the volume of the $\mathbf{S b}^{\text {III }}$ cation and its lone pair is the same as that of an anion. Taking this into account, and ignoring the volume of Zn , the volume per 'anion' is lowered to $18.0 \AA^{3}$, slightly higher than the corresponding values, 16.6 and $17.3 \AA^{3}$, for orthorhombic and cubic $\mathrm{Sb}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$.

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# Structure of Tin(II) Tin(IV) Trisulphide, a Redetermination 

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#### Abstract

Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{3}\), orthorhombic, Pnma, $a=8.878$ (2), $b=3.751(1), c=14.020$ (3) $\AA, Z=4, D_{m}=4.87, D_{x}$ $=4.75 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}, M_{r}=333.6, \mu(\mathrm{Mo} K \alpha)=11.8 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$, final $R=0.04$ for 1335 observed X-ray data. The crystal structure was redetermined using a crystal of improved quality and a diffractometer and applying corrections for absorption and extinction. The results of the previous determination with film data [Mootz \& Puhl (1967). Acta Cryst. 23, 471-476] were confirmed, but a higher accuracy and more reliable anisotropic thermal parameters were achieved.

Introduction. Needle-shaped crystals of $\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{3}$ up to 10 mm long and $1-2 \mathrm{~mm}$ thick were obtained by heating a powdered mixture of the elements ( $54 \mathrm{at} . \% \mathrm{~S} ; 46 \mathrm{at} . \%$ Sn ) in a sealed tube of quartz glass (horizontal arrangement) from room temperature to 993 K within 24 h , followed by a period of constant temperature ( 993 K ) for $2-3$ days. Relative to the phase diagram $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{S}$ (Moh, 1969), the growth conditions lie within the two-phase region $\alpha-\mathrm{SnS}_{\text {(solid) }}+\beta-\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{3 \text { (solid) }}(988-1011$ K ). High-temperature $\beta-\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{3}$ cannot be quenched, but is transformed ( $988-983 \mathrm{~K}$ ) to $\gamma$ - and finally (948-934 K ) to low-temperature $\delta-\mathrm{Sn}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{3}$ during cooling (Moh, 1969). In spite of these phase transformations (if really passed through) the crystals obtained were of good quality.


A needle-shaped crystal of approximately $0.45 \times$ $0.08 \times 0.03 \mathrm{~mm}$ was used for determination of lattice parameters ( 14 reflections with $34 \leq 2 \theta \leq 54^{\circ}$, Mo $K \alpha)$ and data collection. 1601 reflections, $2 \theta \leq 80^{\circ}$ (Mo $K \alpha$ ), Syntex $P 2_{1}$ diffractometer, crystal monochromator, $\omega$-scan. 1335 reflections with $I>1.96 \sigma_{I}$ were classified observed. An absorption correction was made with the Gaussian grid method. The atomic coordinates of the previous determination (Mootz \& Puhl, 1967) could be used as initial parameters for the refinement which converged ( 32 parameters) at $R=$ $0.040(0.042)$ and $R_{w}=0.045(0.045)$ for the observed (all) reflections. The isotropic extinction coefficient (Larson, 1970) was 0.0096 (2), scattering factors were taken from Cromer \& Mann (1968), and correction was made for anomalous dispersion. The weighting scheme $1 / w=\sigma_{F}^{2}+(0.02 F)^{2}$ was employed. Calculations were made with the XRAY system (1972) on a Cyber 76 computer. The final parameters are given in Table 1.*

[^1]
[^0]:    * Lists of structure factors and anisotropic thermal parameters have been deposited with the British Library Lending Division as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 36742 ( 3 pp .). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH 1 2HU, England.

[^1]:    * A list of structure factors has been deposited with the British Library Lending Division as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 36751 ( 6 pp .). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

