# The Crystal Structures of $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathbf{C l}$ and $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathbf{I}^{*}$ 

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#### Abstract

The structures of $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ and $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ have been determined. Both compounds are orthorhombic: ©or $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}, a=4.020 \AA, b=11.867 \AA, c=8.773 \AA, Z=4$, space group Cmcm ; for $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}, a=$ $4.056 \AA, b=12.579 \AA, c=4.741 \AA, Z=2, P m m b$. Intensities were measured on an automatic diffractometer, and the structures were refined, with anisotropic temperature factors, to $R=2.1 \%$ and $R=3.5 \%$, respectively. The structures consist essentially of corrugated two-dimensional nets of gold and tellurium atoms, with interleaving halogen atoms. The tellurium atoms form pairs coordinated to four gold atoms, and each gold atom is coordinated to four tellurium atoms.


## Introduction

The preparation and some properties of four gold tellurium halides have been reported (1). Basic crystallographic properties of AuTeI and $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{X}(\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{Cl}, \mathrm{Br}, \mathrm{I})$ were given, and these indicated that $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ and $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Br}$ were isotypes. The crystal structures of $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ and $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{l}$ have now been determined.

## Experimental

Both compounds had been prepared by hydrothermal synthesis in hydrohalic acid. The crystals are silvery white, the chloride crystallizing in a square shape, the iodide as spears. Oscillation, Weissenberg, and precession photographs confirmed the orthorhombic symmetry, approximate cell dimen-

[^0]sions, and cell contents previousiy reported (l) for both compounds. Improved lattice parameters were obtained by a least-squares fit of angle measurements, made on a diffractometer at room temperature, with copper radiation. The pertinent data are summarized in Table I.

Intensity measurements were made on a Siemens-type automatic diffractometer, with paper tape control, using Nb -filtered $\mathrm{Mo} \mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation. The instrument was run in the 5value $\theta / 2 \theta$ scanning mode, the maximum measuring time being $1.2 \mathrm{sec} / 0.01^{\circ}$ in $\theta$. Reflections were measured to an upper limit of $2 \theta=70^{\circ}\left((\sin \theta) / \lambda \sim 0.8 \AA^{-1}\right)$. Intensities were checked against standard reflections; scaling remained constant during both sets of measurements.

## Structure Determination and Refinement

Reflections with net negative intensities were set to zero, otherwise no distinction was made between observed and "less than" reflections. The standard deviations were assigned values of $\sigma_{I}=\sqrt{\left(\sigma_{I}\right)^{2}+(0.02 I)^{2}}$ and $\sigma_{F}=\sqrt{F^{2}+\sigma_{F}^{2}}-F$. The atomic scattering

TABLE I
Crystallographic Data

|  | $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ | $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Symmetry |  | orthorhombic |
| Cell dimensions | $a=4.0199(3) \AA$ | $a=4.056(1) \AA$ |
|  | $b=11.8666(7) \AA$ | $b=12.579(2) \AA$ |
| Cell volume | $c=8.7728(7) \AA$ | $c=4.741(1) \AA$ |
| Formula weight | $418.48 \AA^{3}$ | $241.9 \AA^{3}$ |
| $Z$ | 487.62 | 579.07 |
| Density (measured) | 4 | 2 |
| Density (X-ray) | 7.72 | 7.98 |
| Absorption coefficient ${ }^{a}, \mu$ | 7.738 | 7.949 |
| Systematic absences | $h k l: h+k=2 n+1$ | $h k 0: k=2 n+1$ |
|  | $h 0 l: l=2 n+1$ |  |
| Possible space groups | $C m c 2_{1}$ | $P m 2_{1} b\left(P m c 2_{1}\right)^{b}$ |
|  | $C 2 \mathrm{~cm}(A m a 2)$ | $P 2 m b(P m a 2)$ |
| Final space group | $C m c m$ | $P m m b(P m m a)$ |
|  | $C m c m$ | $P m m b$ |

a For molybdenum $K \alpha$ radiation.
${ }^{\text {b }}$ Symbols in parentheses are the conventional ones.
factors used were those of Cromer and Mann (2). A dispersion correction was made for all atoms, using Templeton-type factors (3). The intensities were corrected for absorption, using the Gaussian grid method. The program and its application were checked by the method suggested by Cahen and Ibers (4). In the full-matrix least-squares refinement,
the function minimized is $\sum w\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-1 / k\right.$ $\left.\left|F_{c}\right|\right)^{2} ; w=\left(1 / \sigma_{F}\right)^{2}$. Residuals quoted are

$$
R=\frac{\sum\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{c}\right|}{\sum\left|F_{o}\right|}
$$

and

$$
R w=\left[\frac{\sum w\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{\mathrm{c}}\right|\right)^{2}}{\sum w\left|F_{o}\right|^{2}}\right]^{1 / 2}
$$

TABLE II
Atomic Parameters

| Atom | $x^{a}$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{11}{ }^{\text {b }}$ | $U_{22}$ | $U_{33}$ | $U_{12}$ | $U_{13}$ | $U_{23}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Au | 0.00 | 0.08659(3) | 0.25 | 0.0074(1) | 0.0155(1) | 0.0104(1) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Te | 0.50 | 0.11077(3) | 0.05161(4) | 0.0081(2) | 0.0152(2) | 0.0101(2) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0001(1) |
| Cl | 0.00 | $-0.16090(18)$ | 0.25 | $0.0227(10)$ | 0.0151(8) | $0.0214(9)$ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| $\underline{\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Au | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.50 | $0.0115(2)$ | 0.0268(3) | 0.0117(2) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0027(2) |
| Te | 0.50 | 0.08158(5) | 0.19745(12) | 0.0128(3) | $0.0190(3)$ | 0.0134(2) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0020(2) |
| I | 0.00 | 0.25 | 0.73103(21) | 0.0241(5) | 0.0185(4) | 0.0294(4) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

[^1]Atomic coordinates and structure amplitude comparisons are given in Tables II and III.

## $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$

The crystal of $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ used for the intensity measurements was $0.040 \times 0.042 \times 0.120$ mm in size, mounted with the $a$-axis as the rotation ( $\phi$ ) axis, parallel to the longest dimension. No measurements were rejected during data reduction, and 544 independent reflections were available for the calculations. The absorption correction was based on a $9 \times 9 \times 27=2187$ grid. The value of $A^{*}$ in the expression $I_{\text {corr }}=I_{\text {obs }} \cdot A^{*}$ varied from 4.84 to 7.59 . The structure was completely determined by an analysis of the Patterson function, with the atoms in the following locations of the space group Cmcm :

| Au and Cl in $4 c$ | $m m$ | 0 | $y$ | $1 / 4$, |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Te in $8 f$ | $m$ | $1 / 2$ | $y$ | $z$. |

Three cycles of refinement, with anisotropic temperature factors, gave an $R$ factor of $4.9 \%$ and a weighted $R$ factor ( $R w$ ) of $6.0 \%$. Six additional cycles, including an isotropic correction for extinction, after the method of Larson (5), further reduced $R$ to $2.1 \%$ and $R w$ to $2.3 \%$. The initial extinction coefficient of 0.0 converged at $3.56(6)$ on refinement. An additional set of three cycles, with a variation in the $\Delta f^{\prime \prime}$ term for gold, initially 10.1, had no influence on the $R$ factors, with $4 f^{\prime \prime}$ converging at $10.8(2)$.

## AuTe ${ }_{2} I$

The $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ crystal was $0.03 \times 0.05 \times 0.12$ mm in size. The $a$-axis was again taken as the rotation ( $\phi$ ) axis, parallel to the longest dimension. Five reflections were eliminated during data reduction because of poor agreement between duplicate measurements, and 622 independent reflections remained. The absorption correction was based on a $6 \times$ $10 \times 24=1440$ grid, and $A^{*}$ varied from 3.76 to 9.32 . The structure was first postulated by reference to the chloride structure, the lattice constant relations between the two compounds, and space group considerations. All details were then substantiated by a complete solution of the Patterson function.

The setting Pmmb of the space group adopted was better suited to comparison of the structures than was the conventional one ( Pmma ). The atoms are in the following locations:

| Au in $2 c$ | $2 / m$ | 0 | 0 | $1 / 2$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Te in $4 j$ | $m$ | $1 / 2$ | $y$ | $z$ |
| I | in $2 e$ | $m m$ | 0 | $1 / 4$ |
| I | $z$. |  |  |  |

Three cycles of refinement, with isotropic temperature factors, gave $R=10.4 \%, R w=$ $11.6 \%$. This was followed by three cycles, with anisotropic temperature factors, reducing $R$ to $5.0 \%$ and $R w$ to $5.5 \%$. Two additional cycles, with an added extinction correction, gave $R=3.5 \%$ and $R w=3.6 \%$. The initial estimated extinction coefficient of 3.0 converged at $2.90(8)$.

## Discussion

The two structures bear a marked similarity to each other. Each consists essentially of corrugated two-dimensional nets of gold and tellurium atoms, with interleaving halogen atoms. The tellurium atoms form pairs, joined to successive gold atoms in a $-\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{Te}-$ Te-Au-sequence. Each gold atom is coordinated to four tellurium atoms, and each tellurium pair is likewise coordinated to four gold atoms. These considerations, and the unusually long gold-halogen distances, suggest that structurally the compounds might conceivably be represented as

$$
\left[\mathrm{Au}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(\mathrm{Te}_{2}\right)_{4 / 4}\right]^{(+)} \mathrm{X}^{(-)}
$$

in which the fourfold gold coordination is exactly planar in the iodide but distorted in the chloride.

The doubling of the $c$-axis in the chloride, as compared to the iodide, is associated with an alternating up-and-down arrangement of tellurium pairs within the nets. The gold atoms are consequently also alternately disposed in the chloride, but not in the iodide, in which the iodine atoms are equidistant from adjacent nets. We have no satisfactory explanation to offer for these fundamental structural differences, nor do the structures suggest any obvious explanation for the observed metallic









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Fig. 1. AuTe ${ }_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ : Au- $\mathrm{Te}_{2}$ net shown perpendicular to $b$-axis.
conductivity ( 1 ) of these compounds, in view of the long gold-gold distances ( $\sim 4 \AA$ ).

## $\mathrm{AuTe} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$

The pertinent distances and angles are listed in Table IV. Figure 1 shows the goldtellurium net, in which the tellurium-tellurium distance is $2.78 \AA$. This can be compared to the corresponding distance in ditellurides with pyrite and marcasite structures, in which the concept of tellurium pairs is commonly used. The gold-tellurium distance is $2.67 \AA$. In

TABLE IV
Bond Distances and Bond Angels

|  | $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ |  |  | $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{Te}$ |  | $2.6742(3) \AA 4^{a}$ |  | $2.6876(6) \AA 4^{a}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{X}$ | $2.9369(22)$ | 1 | $3.3300(6)$ | 2 |  |
| $\mathrm{Te}-\mathrm{Te}$ | $2.7805(5)$ | 1 | $2.7781(6)$ | 1 |  |
| $\mathrm{Te}-\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{Te}$ | $81.21(1)^{\circ}$ | 2 | $82.03(2)^{\circ}$ | 2 |  |
|  | $97.46(1)$ | 2 | $97.98(2)$ | 2 |  |
|  | $167.68(2)$ | 2 | $180.00(2)$ | 2 |  |
| $\mathrm{Tc}-\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{X}$ | $96.16(1)$ | 4 | $79.34(2)$ | 4 |  |
|  | - |  | $100.66(2)$ | 4 |  |
| $\mathrm{X}-\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{X}$ | - |  | 180.00 | 1 |  |
| $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{Te}-\mathrm{Au}$ | $97.46(1)$ | 1 | $97.98(2)$ | 1 |  |
| $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{Te}-\mathrm{Te}$ | $96.35(1)$ | 2 | $94.45(2)$ | 2 |  |
| $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{X}-\mathrm{Au}$ | - |  | $141.59(3)$ | 1 |  |

[^2]krennerite and calaverite, two forms of $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2}$, the shortest reported gold-tellurium distances are 2.624 and $2.680 \AA$, respectively (6). A side view of the net planes is shown in Fig. 2, illustrating the distortion of the square planar coordination about gold. The chlorine atom is at a distance of $2.94 \AA$, considerably greater than the approximately $2.3 \AA$ observed in


Fig. 2. $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ : Side view of structure perpendicular to $a$-axis.


Fig. 3. $\mathrm{AuTe} \mathrm{I}_{2} \mathrm{I}: \mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{Te}_{2}$ net shown perpendicular to $b$-axis.
gold (III) chloride (7) and in rubidium tetrachloroaurate (8), in which chlorine is one of the four ligands of the square planar configuration. There is thus, in $\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$, a pyramidal struc-


Fig. 4. AuTe ${ }_{2}$ I: Side view of structure perpendicular to $a$-axis.
ture about the gold, with the apical atom (chlorine) at a distance greater than the equal distances ( $2.67 \AA$ ) of the four tellurium atoms.
$\mathrm{AuTe}_{2} \mathrm{I}$
Distances and angles are also listed in Table IV, and structural details are shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The tellurium-tellurium bonds in a net point in the same direction, the $\mathrm{Te}-\mathrm{Te}$ distance again being $2.78 \AA$. The coordination of tellurium around the gold is perfectly planar, with a gold-tellurium distance of $2.69 \AA$. Neighboring layers are related by a symmetry plane passing through the interleaving halogen atoms, here equidistant from two gold atoms at what is again a relatively long distance of $3.33 \AA$, compared with $2.62 \AA$ in the complex anion $\left[\mathrm{Au}(\mathrm{CN})_{2} \mathrm{I}_{2}\right]^{-}(9)$.

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[^0]:    * Presented in part at the IV International Conference on Solid Compounds of Transition Elements, Geneva, April 9-13, 1973.
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[^1]:    ${ }^{a}$ Values given in fractions of the lattice translations. Estimated standard deviations are in parentheses.
    ${ }^{b}$ The expression for the temperature factor is of the form: $\exp \left[-2 \pi^{2}\left(U_{11} h^{2} a^{* 2}+2 U_{23} k l b^{*} c^{*}+\cdots\right)\right]$ with $U_{i j}$ in $\AA^{2}$.

[^2]:    ${ }^{a}$ Number of equivalent distances from the first atom or of equivalent angles at the central atom.

