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# Synthesis and crystal structure of new uranyl tungstates  $M_2({\rm UO}_2)({\rm W}_2{\rm O}_8)$  (M = Na, K),  $M_2({\rm UO}_2)_2({\rm WO}_5)$ O (M = K, Rb), and  $Na_{10}(UO_2)_8(W_5O_{20})O_8$

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## Abstract

The solid-state reactions of UO<sub>3</sub> and WO<sub>3</sub> with  $M_2CO_3$  ( $M=Na$ , K, Rb) at 650°C for 5 days result, accordingly the starting stoichiometry, in the formation of  $M_2(\text{UO}_2)(\text{W}_2\text{O}_8)$  ( $M=\text{Na}$  (1), K (2)),  $M_2(\text{UO}_2)_2(\text{WO}_3)$  ( $M=\text{K}$  (3), Rb (4)), and  $\text{Na}_{10}(\text{UO}_2)_8(\text{W}_5\text{O}_{20})\text{O}_8$  (5). The crystal structures of compounds 2, 3, 4, and 5 have been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction using  $Mo(K\alpha)$  radiation and a charge-coupled device detector. The crystal structures were solved by direct methods and Fourier difference techniques, and refined by a least-squares method on the basis of  $F<sup>2</sup>$  for all unique reflections. For (1), unit-cell parameters were determined from powder X-ray diffraction data. Crystallographic data: 1, monoclinic,  $a = 12.736(4)$ Å,  $b = 7.531(3)$  Å,  $c = 8.493(3)$  Å,  $\beta = 93.96(2)$ °,  $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 6.62(2)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{mes}} = 6.64(1)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ; **2**, orthorhombic, space group *Pmcn*,  $a = 7.5884(16)$  Å,  $b = 8.6157(18)$  Å,  $c = 13.946(3)$  Å,  $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 6.15(2)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{mes}} = 6.22(1)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 8$ ,  $R1 = 0.029$  for 80 parameters with 1069 independent reflections; 3, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/n$ ,  $a = 8.083\text{(4)}\text{ Å}$ ,  $b = 28.724\text{(5)}\text{ Å}$ ,  $c = 9.012\text{(4)}\text{ Å}$ ,  $\beta = 102.14(1)^\circ$ ,  $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 5.83(2)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{mes}} = 5.90(2)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 8$ ,  $R1 = 0.037$  for 171 parameters with 1471 reflections; 4, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/n$ ,  $a = 8.234(1)$  Å,  $b = 28.740(3)$  Å,  $c = 9.378(1)$  Å,  $\beta = 104.59(1)$ °,  $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 6.13(2)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{mes}}=6.19(3)\text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $Z=8$ ,  $R_1=0.037$  for 171 parameters with 1452 reflections; 5, monoclinic, space group  $C_2/c$ , a = 24.359(5) Å,  $b = 23.506(5)$  Å,  $c = 6.8068(14)$  Å,  $\beta = 94.85(3)$ °,  $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 6.42(2)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{mes}} = 6.39(3)$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 8$ ,  $R1 = 0.036$ for 306 parameters with 5190 independent reflections. The crystal structure of 2 contains linear one-dimensional chains formed from edge-sharing UO<sub>7</sub> pentagonal bipyramids connected by two octahedra wide (W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>) ribbons formed from two edge-sharing WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra connected together by corners. This arrangement leads to  $[UW_2O_{10}]^2$  corrugated layers parallel to (001). Owing to the unit-cell parameters, compound 1 probably contains similar sheets parallel to (100). Compounds 3 and 4 are isostructural and the structure consists of bi-dimensional networks built from the edge- and corner-sharing  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids. This arrangement creates square sites occupied by W atoms, a fifth oxygen atom completes the coordination of W atoms to form  $WO<sub>5</sub>$ distorted square pyramids. The interspaces between the resulting  ${[U_2WO_{10}]}^{2-}$  layers parallel to  $(10\bar{1})$  plane are occupied by K or Rb atoms. The crystal structure of compound 5 is particularly original. It is based upon layers formed from  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids and two edge-shared octahedra units,  $W_2O_{10}$ , by the sharing of edges and corners. Two successive layers stacked along the [100] direction are pillared by WO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra resulting in sheets of double layers. The sheets are separated by Na<sup>+</sup> ions. The other Na<sup>+</sup> ions occupy the rectangular tunnels created within the sheets. In fact complex anions  $W_5O_{20}^{10-}$  are built by the sharing of the four corners of a WO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedron with two W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub> dimmers, so, the formula of compound 5 can be written Na<sub>10</sub>(UO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>8</sub>(W<sub>5</sub>O<sub>20</sub>)O<sub>8</sub>.  $\odot$  2003 Elsevier Science (USA). All rights reserved.

### 1. Introduction

During these last decades, the uranyl compounds have received a great and particular attention in solid-state chemistry owing to their very important environmental

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aspect and the possibility of their applications in medicine and in the nuclear industry. The association of uranyl ion with transition metal oxoanions (V, Nb, Mo,  $W$ ,...) [\[1–12\],](#page-13-0) carbonate, nitrate, phosphate, sulfate,...  $[13-18]$  allowed the synthesis of several compounds with complex and varied crystal structures.

In uranyl materials, the  $UO_2^{2+}$  ion can be coordinated in the equatorial plane by four, five or six anions

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<span id="page-1-0"></span>Table 1

Unit-cell parameters ( $\AA$ ) refined from powder X-ray data, figures of merit, and calculated and measured densities (g/cm<sup>3</sup>) for compounds (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5)

Compounds	Cell parameters	$F_{20}$	$\rho_{\rm cal}$	$\rho_{\rm mes}$
$Na_2( U O_2)W_2O_8$	$a = 12.736(4)$ $b = 7.531(3)$ $c = 8.493(3)$ $\beta = 93.96(2)$	29.03 (53, 0.013)	6.62(2)	6.64(1)
$K_2({\rm UO}_2){\rm W}_2{\rm O}_8$	$a = 7.585(1)$ $b = 8.612(1)$ $c = 13.956(2)$	57.14 (35, 0.010)	6.15(2)	6.22(1)
$K_2( UO_2)_2(WO_5)O$	$a = 8.084(2)$ $b = 28.731(7)$ $c = 9.010(2)$ $\beta = 102.16(2)$	26.14 (45, 0.017)	5.83(2)	5.90(2)
$Rb_2( UO_2)_2(WO_5)O$	$a = 8.237(2)$ $b = 28.744(8)$ $c = 9.377(2)$ $\beta = 104.59(2)$	29.49 (39, 0.018)	6.13(2)	6.19(3)
$Na_{10}(UO_2)_8(W_5O_{20})O_8$	$a = 24.356(4)$ $b = 23.507(4)$ $c = 6.804(1)$ $\beta = 94.86(1)$	08.33(240, 0.010)	6.42(2)	6.39(3)

forming octahedron, pentagonal bipyramid or hexagonal bipyramid, respectively, the pentagonal bipyramid coordination being the most common mode of accommodation of uranyl ion. The other elements  $(M=V, Nb,$ Mo, W, P, S,...), notably in the highest oxidation state, form tetrahedral  $MO_4$ , square pyramidal  $MO_5$  or octahedral  $MO_6$  entities. They can act as bridging coordination modes to connect together uranyl polyhedra or clusters formed by edge or corner-shared uranyl polyhedra. Numerous arrangements of  $UO_x$  $(x = 6, 7, 8)$  and  $MO_n$   $(n = 4, 5, 6)$  can be obtained giving rise to low-dimensional architectures or openframework structures. The size of the alkali or the alkaline earth cations has also an effect on the type of network that forms. In numerous compounds, a layered structure is obtained, where the interlayer spaces are occupied by the mono or divalent cations. So, this tendency to form layered structures, confers to these materials remarkable properties in the domains of insertion, exchanges and electrical ionic conductivity due to interlayer cations mobility. For example, hydrogen uranyl phosphate tetrahydrate  $HUO_2PO_4 \tcdot 4H_2O$ (HUP) has been shown to have the best selective proton conductivity at room temperature and has received particular attention because of its potential applications in electrochemical systems [\[19–22\].](#page-13-0)

Recently, we have reported several layered uranyl vanadates  $[3-5,9]$ . In a preliminary communication  $[10]$ ,

we have also reported the synthesis and crystal structure investigations of some uranyl vanadates, molybdates and tungstates of alkali metals.

The present paper is dealing with the synthesis and the crystal structure of new uranyl tungstates of sodium, potassium and rubidium in which the tungsten atom adopts different coordination geometries giving rise to four-coordinated WO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra, five-coordinated  $WO<sub>5</sub>$  square pyramids and six-coordinated  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra leading to three different new arrangements.

## 2. Experimental

## 2.1. Powder samples preparation and crystal growth

The starting materials,  $M_2CO_3$  ( $M = Na$  K, Rb) (Aldrich),  $WO_3$  (Prolabo) and  $U_3O_8$  (Prolabo), were used as received. Pure powder samples of the five compounds were prepared by solid-state reactions. For each sample, mixed starting materials in the appropriate stoichiometries were thoroughly mixed and were heated at  $650^{\circ}$ C in air for 5 days with intermediate grindings. The end of the reaction and the purity of the synthesized products were confirmed by X-ray diffraction using a Guinier–De Wolff camera and  $CuK\alpha$  radiation.

Transparent yellow single crystals of 1 and 2 were obtained by heating the powder samples in air in

<span id="page-2-0"></span>



 $b = 8.6157(18)$  Å 23.506(5) Å  $c = 13.946(3)$  Å 6.8068(14) Å

Equipment Bruker SMART CCD Bruker SMART CCD

 $V = 911.8(3)$   $\AA^3$ <br>4

Temperature (K)  $293(2)$ <br>
293(2) 293(2)

 $Z$  4 4 4

Scan mode  $\omega$   $\omega$ Recording angular range  $(°)$  2.58–29.30 1.21–31.51 1.21–31.51

Data collection

Radiation Mo $K\alpha$  (Å)

94.85(3)<br>3883.5(1) Å<sup>3</sup>

#### <span id="page-3-0"></span>Table 2 (continued)



 $R_1 = \sum (|F_o| - |F_c|) / \sum |F_o|$  $wR_2 = \left[\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)^2\right]^{1/2}$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (aP)^2 + bP]$  where a and b are refinable parameters and  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ .

Table 3 Atomic coordinates and equivalent displacement parameters  $(\AA^2)$  for  $K_2(UO_2)W_2O_8$  (2)

Atom	$\mathbf{x}$	v	z	$U_{\text{eq}}$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )
$\mathbf{U}$	0.25	0.52721(5)	0.49618(4)	0.0104(1)
W	0.00175(5)	0.85444(4)	0.42732(3)	0.0114(1)
K1	$-0.25$	0.1508(4)	0.3064(2)	0.0189(7)
K <sub>2</sub>	0.25	0.1715(4)	0.2827(3)	0.0310(8)
O <sub>1</sub>	$-0.0290(8)$	0.6508(7)	0.4844(6)	0.0167(15)
O <sub>2</sub>	$-0.25$	0.8676(10)	0.4172(7)	0.0136(19)
O <sub>3</sub>	0.0353(8)	1.0652(7)	0.4224(5)	0.0121(13)
O <sub>4</sub>	0.25	0.8081(10)	0.4668(7)	0.0147(20)
O <sub>5</sub>	0.0329(9)	0.8087(8)	0.3077(5)	0.0202(16)
O <sub>6</sub>	0.25	0.5559(10)	0.6247(7)	0.0179(21)
O7	0.25	0.4934(10)	0.3680(7)	0.0174(21)

Note: The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form  $-2\pi^2[h^2a*^2 U_{11} + \cdots + 2hka*b*U_{12}]$  and  $U_{eq} = 1/3(\sum_i \sum_j U_{ij}a*)_i$  $a *_{i} a_{i} a_{j}$ ).

platinum crucibles just above the non-congruent melting temperature,  $850^{\circ}$ C and  $750^{\circ}$ C, respectively, during 1 h and slow cooling at a rate of  $5^{\circ}C/h$  to room temperature. Unfortunately, in spite of numerous efforts, the obtained single crystals of 1 were not good enough for a crystal structure study.

When the powder samples corresponding to 1 and 2 are heated widely above the melting point, typically  $100^{\circ}$ C above, the results were a mixture of two types of single crystals, yellow crystals of 1 or 2 and orangecolored single crystals corresponding to compounds 5 and 3, respectively.

Transparent orange-colored single crystals of compound 3 were also prepared in a  $K_2CO_3$  flux using a mixture  $U_3O_8/WO_3$  of molar ratio 0.67/1 in a five-fold excess of  $K_2CO_3$ . The sample was thoroughly mixed in a platinum crucible, heated at  $950^{\circ}$ C during 60 h and slowly cooled at a rate of  $5^{\circ}C/h$  to room temperature. Single crystals of 4 were grown under the same conditions using  $Rb_2CO_3$  instead of  $K_2CO_3$  as flux.

For each case, the presence of the metal elements  $Na/K/Rb$ , U and W in the prepared crystals was confirmed by energy dispersive spectroscopy analysis (EDS) using a JEOL JSM-5300 Scanning Microscope.

## 2.2. Crystal structure determination

Crystals of 2, 3, 4 and 5 with the dimensions  $0.180$  mm  $\times$  0.084 mm  $\times$  0.038 mm, 0.112 mm  $\times$  $0.088$  mm  $\times$  0.022 mm, 0.100 mm  $\times$  0.030 mm  $\times$  0.035 mm, and  $0.350$  mm  $\times$  0.103 mm  $\times$  0.021 mm, respectively, were selected, mounted on glass fibers and aligned on a Bruker SMART CCD X-ray diffractometer. Intensities were collected at room temperature using MoK $\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) radiation selected by a graphite monochromator. The individual frames were measured using a  $\omega$ -scan technique with an omega rotation of  $0.3^{\circ}$  and an acquisition time of  $40 \text{ s per}$ frame. After every data collection, the intensity data

Table 4 Atomic coordinates and isotropic or (equivalent for metal atoms) displacement parameters ( $\AA^2$ ) for  $M_2(\text{UO}_2)_2(\text{WO}_5)O$  ( $M = \text{K}$ , Rb), (3) and (4)

$M = K$			$M = Rb$					
Atom	$\mathcal{X}$	$\mathcal{V}$	$\boldsymbol{z}$	$U_{\text{iso}}/U_{\text{eq}}*$	$\boldsymbol{x}$	у	$\boldsymbol{Z}$	$U_{\text{iso}}/U_{\text{eq}}*$
U <sub>1</sub>	0.4724(2)	0.06715(4)	0.9686(2)	$0.0135(4)^{*}$	0.4712(2)	0.06730(5)	0.9701(2)	$0.0145(5)^*$
U <sub>2</sub>	0.6702(2)	0.16794(4)	1.2143(1)	$0.0129(4)^*$	0.6643(2)	0.16789(5)	1.2181(2)	$0.0128(4)^*$
U <sub>3</sub>	1.0917(2)	0.09874(4)	1.5756(2)	$0.0160(4)^{*}$	0.0856(2)	0.09906(5)	0.5812(2)	$0.0142(5)^{*}$
U <sub>4</sub>	0.3213(2)	0.18603(4)	0.8554(2)	$0.0137(4)^*$	0.3153(2)	0.18640(5)	0.8616(2)	$0.0121(5)^*$
W1	0.9110(2)	0.21038(4)	1.5460(2)	$0.0137(4)^*$	0.9000(2)	0.21016(5)	1.5491(2)	$0.0122(5)^*$
W <sub>2</sub>	0.7406(2)	0.03236(4)	1.3109(2)	$0.0178(5)^*$	0.7348(2)	0.03188(5)	1.3114(2)	$0.0182(5)^*$
M1	0.5890(12)	0.1217(2)	1.6069(9)	$0.025(2)^*$	0.5814(5)	0.1211(1)	0.6090(5)	$0.024(1)^*$
M <sub>2</sub>	0.9127(13)	0.2524(3)	1.9611(9)	$0.039(3)^{*}$	0.3792(8)	0.2442(2)	1.4559(6)	$0.057(2)^{*}$
M <sub>3</sub>	0.7301(12)	$-0.0137(3)$	1.6763(9)	$0.045(3)^{*}$	0.2595(6)	0.0131(2)	1.3186(5)	$0.038(1)^*$
M <sub>4</sub>	0.9854(13)	0.1020(3)	1.0121(9)	$0.041(3)^{*}$	0.9773(7)	0.1011(2)	1.0195(6)	$0.044(2)^{*}$
O <sub>1</sub>	0.509(3)	0.1650(6)	1.323(2)	0.002(5)	0.505(3)	0.1622(8)	1.312(3)	0.012(6)
O <sub>2</sub>	0.301(3)	0.0642(6)	1.072(2)	0.012(5)	0.316(3)	0.0632(8)	1.072(3)	0.018(7)
O <sub>3</sub>	0.844(3)	0.1750(6)	1.115(3)	0.016(6)	0.834(3)	0.1770(8)	1.132(3)	0.022(7)
O <sub>4</sub>	0.165(3)	0.1787(6)	0.968(3)	0.017(6)	0.169(3)	0.1785(8)	0.966(3)	0.014(7)
O <sub>5</sub>	0.461(3)	0.1969(7)	0.728(3)	0.014(6)	0.446(3)	0.1987(7)	0.745(3)	0.008(6)
O <sub>6</sub>	0.643(3)	0.0660(7)	0.859(3)	0.019(6)	0.637(4)	0.0684(9)	0.879(3)	0.035(8)
O <sub>7</sub>	0.869(3)	0.1528(7)	1.443(2)	0.011(5)	0.861(3)	0.1530(8)	1.450(3)	0.007(6)
O <sub>8</sub>	0.946(3)	0.0877(7)	1.693(3)	0.031(7)	$-0.056(3)$	0.0840(8)	0.691(3)	0.017(7)
O <sub>9</sub>	0.796(3)	0.2091(8)	1.685(3)	0.035(7)	0.781(3)	0.2082(9)	1.673(3)	0.026(7)
O10	0.612(3)	0.0451(8)	1.444(3)	0.035(7)	0.600(4)	0.0448(9)	1.426(3)	0.034(8)
O11	1.241(3)	0.1097(8)	1.455(3)	0.035(7)	0.220(3)	0.1122(8)	0.468(3)	0.016(7)
O12	1.293(3)	0.1089(7)	1.780(2)	0.016(6)	0.293(3)	0.1105(7)	0.782(3)	0.007(6)
O13	0.610(3)	0.0052(7)	1.135(3)	0.025(6)	0.605(3)	0.0065(9)	1.130(3)	0.033(8)
O14	0.764(3)	0.2347(7)	1.368(3)	0.018(6)	0.754(3)	0.2335(8)	1.370(3)	0.019(7)
O15	0.505(3)	0.1437(7)	1.013(3)	0.018(6)	0.505(3)	0.1439(8)	1.016(3)	0.018(7)
O16	0.680(3)	0.0874(7)	1.188(3)	0.024(6)	0.684(3)	0.0872(8)	1.189(3)	0.010(6)
O17	1.105(3)	0.1812(7)	1.638(3)	0.021(6)	1.102(3)	0.1814(8)	1.645(3)	0.018(7)
O18	1.013(3)	0.2680(7)	1.567(2)	0.017(6)	1.009(3)	0.2684(8)	1.563(3)	0.019(7)
O19	0.799(3)	$-0.0276(7)$	1.373(3)	0.027(6)	0.797(3)	$-0.0272(9)$	1.378(3)	0.029(8)
O <sub>20</sub>	0.952(3)	0.0551(7)	1.359(3)	0.031(7)	0.944(3)	0.0555(9)	1.376(3)	0.030(8)

*Note*: The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form  $-2\pi^2[h^2a*^2 U_{11} + \cdots + 2hka*b*U_{12}]$  and  $U_{eq} = 1/3(\sum_i \sum_j U_{ij}a*_i a*_j a_j)$ .

were reduced and corrected for Lorentz, polarization and background effects using the Bruker program SAINTPLUS [\[23\].](#page-13-0) Once the data processing was performed, the absorption corrections were computed by the Gaussian face-indexed method with the shape of the crystal using the program XPREP of the SHELXTL package [\[24\]](#page-13-0) followed by SADABS program [\[25\]](#page-13-0).

Powder X-ray diffraction data used for least-squares refinements of lattice parameters were recorded on a Siemens D5000  $\theta/2\theta$  diffractometer, at room temperature, using Bragg–Brentano geometry, with a backmonochromatized CuK $\alpha$  radiation. Samples were very lightly ground and mounted on a flat sample plate. The diffraction pattern was scanned over the angle range 10–  $120^{\circ}$  (2 $\theta$ ) in step of 0.03°(2 $\theta$ ) and a counting time of 10 s per step. The unit-cell parameters were refined by a least-squares procedure from the indexed powder diffraction pattern. Powder X-ray diffraction pattern and refined cell parameters with their figure of merit  $F_{20}$ defined by Smith and Snyder [\[26\]](#page-13-0), are reported in [Table 1](#page-1-0). The density of each sample was measured with an automated Micromeritics Accupyc 1330 pycnometer

using a 1-cm<sup>3</sup> cell and comparison with the calculated density gives integer values for the Z number of formula per unit cell [\(Table 1\)](#page-1-0).

Crystal structures were determined in the centrosymmetric *Pmcn* space group for 2,  $P2_1/n$  for 3 and 4 and C2/c for 5 by direct methods using SHELXS program [\[27\],](#page-13-0) which readily established the heavy atom positions (U, W, Rb and K). Oxygen atoms, and Na atoms for 5, were localized from difference Fourier maps. The last cycles of refinement included atomic positions, anisotropic displacement parameters for all non-oxygen atoms, and anisotropic (compounds 1 and 2) or isotropic (compounds 3 and 4) displacement parameters for oxygen atoms. Full-matrix least-squares structure refinements against  $|F^2|$  were carried out using the SHELXTL [\[24\]](#page-13-0) package of programs. Some crystallographic final refinement details are given in [Tables 2a and b.](#page-2-0) The final positional parameters and isotropic or equivalent atomic displacement parameters are presented in [Table 3](#page-3-0) for 2, in Table 4 for 3 and 4 and in [Table 5](#page-5-0) for 5. Additional crystallographic data are available on request upon the authors.

<span id="page-5-0"></span>Table 5 Atomic coordinates and equivalent displacement parameters  $(\AA^2)$  for  $Na_{10}(UO_2)_8(W_5O_{20})O_8$  (5)

Atom	$\mathcal{X}$	$\mathcal{Y}$	$\boldsymbol{Z}$	$U_{\rm eq}$
U1	0.12684(1)	0.46655(1)	0.95523(5)	0.00972(8)
U <sub>2</sub>	0.12380(1)	0.37279(1)	0.48829(5)	0.01006(8)
U <sub>3</sub>	0.12707(2)	0.03289(1)	0.62564(5)	0.00990(8)
U <sub>4</sub>	0.12431(2)	0.12741(1)	1.09093(5)	0.00995(8)
W1	0.13177(2)	0.29932(1)	0.96725(5)	0.01030(9)
W <sub>2</sub>	0.13643(2)	0.20245(1)	0.62015(5)	0.01018(9)
W <sub>3</sub>	$\overline{0}$	0.24593(2)	3/4	0.01637(9)
Na1	0.2506(2)	0.12062(19)	0.8151(7)	0.024(2)
Na2	$\theta$	0.3896(3)	3/4	0.027(2)
Na3	$\theta$	0.4508(3)	3/4	0.029(2)
Na4	0.2515(2)	$-0.0442(2)$	0.8276(7)	0.026(1)
Na5	$\boldsymbol{0}$	0.1081(3)	3/4	0.025(1)
Na6	$\overline{0}$	0.0483(3)	1.25	0.030(2)
Na7	0.2574(3)	0.2897(2)	0.7181(9)	0.045(2)
O <sub>1</sub>	0.1285(3)	0.2180(3)	0.9343(9)	0.014(1)
O <sub>2</sub>	0.0512(4)	0.4709(3)	0.9210(11)	0.021(2)
O <sub>3</sub>	0.2025(3)	0.4586(3)	0.9873(11)	0.018(2)
O <sub>4</sub>	0.1163(3)	0.3708(3)	0.8568(10)	0.015(2)
O <sub>5</sub>	0.1990(3)	0.1300(3)	1.1242(11)	0.018(2)
O <sub>6</sub>	0.0499(3)	0.3779(3)	0.4748(11)	0.018(2)
O <sub>7</sub>	0.1249(3)	0.2824(3)	0.6480(9)	0.015(2)
O <sub>8</sub>	0.0511(3)	0.0330(3)	0.6061(11)	0.020(2)
O <sub>9</sub>	0.0506(3)	0.1246(3)	1.0583(10)	0.019(2)
O10	0.2032(3)	0.0355(3)	0.6477(11)	0.019(2)
O11	0.1987(3)	0.3675(3)	0.5021(11)	0.019(2)
O12	0.1374(3)	0.4558(3)	0.6374(10)	0.016(2)
O13	0.1216(4)	0.4388(3)	1.2605(10)	0.020(2)
O14	0.0442(3)	0.2015(3)	0.6258(11)	0.020(2)
O15	0.1239(3)	0.1900(3)	0.3647(11)	0.019(2)
O16	0.1286(3)	$-0.0442(3)$	0.4457(10)	0.017(2)
O17	0.2034(3)	0.3042(3)	0.9861(11)	0.023(2)
O18	0.0401(3)	0.2906(3)	0.9113(11)	0.022(2)
O19	0.1280(3)	0.1300(3)	0.7249(10)	0.019(2)
O20	0.1252(4)	0.0604(3)	0.3168(9)	0.019(2)
O <sub>21</sub>	0.1193(4)	0.3114(3)	1.2138(10)	0.024(2)
O22	0.2081(3)	0.2061(3)	0.6393(11)	0.022(2)

Note: The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form  $-2\pi^2[h^2a*^2 U_{11} + \dots + 2hka*b*U_{12}]$  and  $U_{eq} = 1/3(\sum_i \sum_j U_{ij}a*)_i$  $a *_{i} a_{i} a_{j}$ ).

## 3. Crystal structure description and discussion

 $M_2({\rm UO}_2)({\rm W}_2{\rm O}_8)$  (M=Na (1), K (2)). The layered structure of 2 is built from an assemblage of  $UO<sub>7</sub>$ distorted pentagonal bipyramids and  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra. The  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids share opposite equatorial edges to form zig-zag infinite one polyhedron wide chains (UO<sub>5</sub>) running along the *a*-axis. Two WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra shares an edge to form a dimeric unit  $W_2O_{10}$ . The dimeric units are corner-shared to form two octahedral wide ribbon ( $W_2O_8$ ) running along the *a*axis. The  $(W_2O_8)$  ribbons share edges with translationally equivalent (UO<sub>5</sub>) chains, resulting in  $(UW_2O_{10})^2$ sheets parallel to  $(001)$  ([Fig. 1](#page-6-0)). The tungsten uranyl layers are stacked along  $c$  and linked through bonds to K cations in the interlayer ([Fig. 2](#page-6-0)). Owing to the

resemblance of the two unit-cell parameters corresponding to the dimensions of the layers, one can assume that the Na compound 1 is probably built from the same  $(UW_2O_{10})^{2-}$  corrugated layers parallel to (100), the differences in the ionic radius and coordination of Na<sup>+</sup> by oxygen atoms of the layers leading to a different stacking of the layers in the third direction.

The  $(UO<sub>5</sub>)$  chains are common to many uranyl oxides, but the connection between chains by the two-octahe-dral wide ribbons is novel. In USbO<sub>5</sub> (28), UVO<sub>5</sub> [\[29–](#page-13-0) [31\],](#page-13-0)  $U_2V_2O_{11}$  [\[32,33\],](#page-13-0)  $U_3V_2O_{14}$  5H<sub>2</sub>O (34) and  $U_3P_2O_{14} \cdot 4H_2O$  [\[35\]](#page-13-0) two successive chains are also deduced by a translation perpendicular to the chain direction. In USbO<sub>5</sub> [\[28\]](#page-13-0) they are connected by a chain of corner-shared  $SbO_6$  octahedra of one octahedron wide. Note that the  $(W_2O_8)$  ribbons in  $K_2(UO_2)(W_2O_8)$ can also be described as two chains formed by cornersharing  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra linked by the sharing of edges. In  $UVO_5$  [\[29–31\]](#page-13-0) [\(Fig. 3a\)](#page-7-0),  $VO_5$  square pyramids replace the SbO<sub>6</sub> octahedra. In  $U_2V_2O_{11}$  [\[32,33\]](#page-13-0),  $U_3V_2O_{14} \cdot 5H_2O$  [\[34\]](#page-13-0) and isostructural  $U_3P_2O_{14} \cdot 4H_2O$ [\[35\]](#page-13-0), the successive parallel chains are connected by  $VO<sub>4</sub>$ or  $PO_4$  tetrahedra [\(Fig. 3b](#page-7-0)). In  $U_2P_2O_{10}$  [\[36\]](#page-13-0), more distorted (UO<sub>5</sub>) chains are also linked by  $PO_4$  tetrahedra in the same manner, in fact the chains are formed from two kinds of  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  bipyramids containing uranium atoms at oxidation states  $+4$  and  $+6$ . In UMo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> [\[37\]](#page-13-0) and  $\alpha$ - $U_3O_8$  [\[38\]](#page-13-0), two successive chains are translated parallel to their direction. In fact, the parallel chains are related by a mirror, so the non-shared oxygen atoms of the equatorial bases of  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  bipyramids are opposite. In  $UMo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>$  [\[37\]](#page-13-0) they are connected by a two octahedra wide ribbon of  $MoO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra linked only by cornersharing, in fact in that compound the obtained layers are shared by corners to built a three-dimensional structure and the  $MoO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra form a  $ReO<sub>3</sub>$ -type slab of titled octahedra, two  $MoO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra wide [\(Fig. 3c](#page-7-0)). In  $U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>$ [\[38\]](#page-13-0), the chains are directly attached by corner-sharing, distorted hexagonal sites are produced between the chains, and U atoms in pentagonal bipyramidal coordination occupy them [\(Fig. 3d](#page-7-0)). In the recently published  $M_6({\rm UO}_2)_5({\rm VO}_4)_2{\rm O}_5$  with  $M={\rm Na}$ , K [\[9\]](#page-13-0) and Rb [\[39\]](#page-13-0), two types of behavior are simultaneously present, two strictly parallel chains are linked by tetrahedra as in  $U_3V_2O_{14} \cdot 5H_2O$  [\[34\]](#page-13-0), while two mirror-related chains are directly linked by cornersharing as in  $U_3O_8$  ([Fig. 3e\)](#page-7-0), depending on the chain distortion the uranium atoms occupying the created sites are in distorted octahedral or pentagonal bipyramidal coordination. Finally, in  $U_2V_2O_{11}$  [\[32,33\]](#page-13-0) they are linked by  $VO_4$  tetrahedra to form flat layers ([Fig. 3b\)](#page-7-0), two parallel layers share an oxygen from  $VO<sub>4</sub>$  resulting in a three-dimensional framework and in the formation of corrugated layers in which  $(UO<sub>5</sub>)$  chains are connected through  $V_2O_7$  divanadate groups [\(Fig. 3f](#page-7-0)). Note that  $UVO<sub>5</sub>$  and  $USbO<sub>5</sub>$  compounds contain  $U<sup>V</sup>$  and no

<span id="page-6-0"></span>

Fig. 1. Projection of the crystal structure of K<sub>2</sub>(UO<sub>2</sub>)(W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>) (2) on the (001) plane showing the connection between one-dimensional (UO<sub>5</sub>)<sub>∞</sub> chains consisting of edge-sharing distorted UO<sub>7</sub> pentagonal bipyramids and  $(W_2O_8)_{\infty}$  ribbons consisting of  $W_2O_{10}$  dimeric units linked by corner-sharing.



Fig. 2. Projection of the crystal structure of  $K_2( UO_2)(W_2O_8)$  (2) on the (100) plane showing the corrugated  $(UW_2O_{10})^{2-}$  layers stacked along the  $c$ -axis and the interlayer K atoms.

uranyl group is present and the layers are stacked by perpendicular chains containing –U–O–U–O– and –V–  $O-V-O-$  in  $UVO<sub>5</sub>$  and  $-U-O-Sb-O-U-O-Sb-$  in  $USbO<sub>5</sub>$ . In both compounds, the U–O bond lengths along the chains perpendicular to the layers are greater than  $2.0 \text{ Å}$ . The structure of the infinite sheets can be described with the anion topologies, developed by Burns et al. [\[40,41\]](#page-13-0) that contain only triangles, squares, and pentagons and are common to many borates, silicates, sulphates,....

Selected interatomic distances and bond valences for 2 are given in [Table 6](#page-7-0). There are two kinds of U–O distances in the flattened pentagonal bipyramid around U, two short bonds of  $1.81(1)$  Å with a O–U–O angle of 178.6(4)° characteristic of the  $[UO<sub>2</sub>]^{2+}$  uranyl ion and five longer U–O distances (average value,  $2.36(1)$  Å) forming the equatorial plane of the  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  bipyramids. The U–O bond lengths are in good accordance with the seven-fold coordination usually observed for U(VI) [\[42\]](#page-13-0).

The  $WO_6$  octahedron presents W–O distances ranging from 1.730(7) to 2.225(7) Å with an average value of 1.942 Å. The shortest W–O bond  $(1.730 \text{Å})$  corresponds to  $O(5)$  oxygen non-shared with a  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  polyhedron. The tungsten atom is moved towards one O(3) oxygen atom of the bridge between two  $WO_6$  octahedra (1.835 Å) and as a consequence is taken away from the other one  $(2.225 \text{ Å})$ .

Bond valence sums calculations using Brown and Altermatt data [\[43\]](#page-13-0) with  $b = 0.37 \text{ Å}$  except for U–O

<span id="page-7-0"></span>

Fig. 3. The connection between  $(UO_5)_{\infty}$  zig-zag chains consisting of  $UO_7$  pentagonal bipyramids sharing opposite edges, (a) by SbO<sub>6</sub> octahedra or VO<sub>5</sub> square pyramids in U<sup>5+</sup> containing compounds, USbO<sub>5</sub> and UVO<sub>5</sub>, respectively, (b) by VO<sub>4</sub> or PO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra in U<sub>3</sub>X<sub>2</sub>O<sub>14</sub>  $nH_2O(X=V, P)$ , (c) by ReO<sub>3</sub>-type slabs two octahedra wide in UMo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, (d) by corner-sharing in U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, (e) alternatively by VO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra and by corner-sharing in  $M_6({\rm UO}_2)_{5}({\rm VO}_4)_{2}{\rm O}_5$  ( $M = {\rm Na}$ , K, Rb) and (f) by divanate groups in  ${\rm U}_2{\rm V}_2{\rm O}_{11}$ .

Table 6 Selected bond distances ( $\AA$ ) and bond valences for  $K_2(UO_2)W_2O_8$  (2)

Atom	Distance	$S_{ij}$	Atom	Distance	$S_{ij}$
$U-O6$	1.809(9)	1.591	$W-O5$	1.730(7)	1.658
$U$ –O $7$	1.811(9)	1.591	$W=O3$	1.835(6)	1.248
$U - O1i$	2.289(6)	0.633	W–O2	1.919(1)	0.995
$U-O1^{ii}$	2.289(6)	0.633	$W=O1$	1.941(7)	0.937
$U - O1$ <sup>iii</sup>	2.376(6)	0.535	$W = 04$	2.003(3)	0.793
$U - O1$	2.376(6)	0.535	$W = O3^V$	2.225(7)	0.434
$U$ –O4	2.455(9)	0.459			
$\Sigma s_{ii}$		5.977	$\Sigma s_{ii}$		6.065
$K1 - O5$ <sup>viii</sup>	2.664(7)	0.237	$K2-O3^x$	2.700(7)	0.216
$K1 - O5^{ix}$	2.664(7)	0.237	$K2-O3$ <sup>xiii</sup>	2.700(7)	0.216
$K1 - O6i$	2.704(9)	0.214	$K2-O5ix$	2.756(7)	0.185
$K1-O7ix$	2.785(9)	0.171	$K2-O5^{xiv}$	2.756(7)	0.185
$K1-O3x$	2.801(7)	0.164	$K2-O6^{xy}$	2.949(9)	0.11
$K1-O3^{x1}$	2.801(7)	0.164	$K2-O7$	3.018(9)	0.091
$K1-O2x$	2.888(9)	0.129	$K2-O2ix$	3.260(9)	0.047
$\Sigma s_{ii}$		1.311	$\Sigma s_{ii}$		1.05

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x$ ,  $1 - y$ ,  $1 - z$ ; (ii)  $0.5 + x$ ,  $1 - y$ ,  $1 - z$ ; (iii)  $0.5$  $x, y, z$ ; (iv)  $1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ ; (v)  $-x, 2 - y, 1 - z$ ; (vi)  $x, 1 + y, z$ ; (vii)  $-x, 0.5 + y, 0.5 - z$ ; (viii)  $-0.5 + x, -0.5 + y, 0.5 - z$ ; (ix)  $-x, -0.5 +$  $y, 0.5 - z$ ; (x)  $x, -1 + y, z$ ; (xi)  $-0.5 - x, -1 + y, z$ ; (xii)  $-1 + x, y, z$ ; (xiii)  $0.5 - x$ ;  $-1 + y$ , z; (xiv)  $0.5 + x$ ;  $-0.5 + y$ ,  $0.5 - z$ ; (xv)  $x$ ,  $0.5 - z$  $y, -0.5 + z.$ 

bonds where the coordination independent parameters  $(R_{ii} = 2.051 \text{ Å}, b = 0.519 \text{ Å})$  were taken from Burns et al. [\[40\]](#page-13-0) provide values of 5.977, 6.065, 1.311 and 1.050 for U, W,  $K(1)$  and  $K(2)$ , respectively. For the oxygen atoms the calculated valence bond sums range from 1.853 to 2.166 with an average value of 2.041.

 $M_2({\rm UO}_2)_{2}({\rm WO}_5){\rm O}$  ( $M=$ K (3), Rb (4)). Compounds 3 and 4 are isostructural with 30 unique atoms (4 U, 2 W, 4 K or Rb and 20 O), all of which occupy general crystallographic positions (4e). The crystal structure of 3 and 4 is built from  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids and  $WO<sub>5</sub> square pyramids. The structure consists of layered$ arrangements of edge- and corner-shared  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids that can be considered as the primary building units. The pentagonal bipyramids for the four independent uranium atoms are associated by edgesharing to form a tetrameric group  $U_4O_{21}$ . The three pentagonal bipyramids  $U(1)O_7$ ,  $U(2)O_7$  and  $U(4)O_7$  are linked by the common corner  $O(15)$  and share the edges [O(15)–O(12)], [O(15)–O(16)], [O(15)–O(18)] to form a very dense cluster, the fourth pentagonal bipyramid U(3)O<sub>7</sub> is linked to U(4)O<sub>7</sub> through the [O(12)–O(17)] edge and with  $U(1)O_7$  by  $O(12)$  corner to built the



Fig. 4. (a) The SBU U<sub>8</sub>O<sub>10</sub> in  $M_2$ (UO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(WO<sub>5</sub>)O [M=K (3), Rb (4)] compounds consisting of edge-sharing distorted pentagonal bipyramids UO<sub>7</sub> and (b) the bi-dimensional arrangement of SBU showing the two types of sites occupied by  $WO<sub>5</sub>$  entities.



Fig. 5. Projection of the layer  $(U_2WO_{10})^2$  on the (10<sup>T</sup>) plane of  $M_2(UO_2)_2(WO_5)O$  [M=K (3), Rb (4)] compounds, showing the bi-dimensional arrangement of  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids and  $WO<sub>5</sub>$  square pyramids.

tetrameric unit. Dense clusters of edge-shared  $UO<sub>7</sub>$ pentagonal bipyramids occur in the structure of numerous uranyl-containing compounds. Two  $U_4O_{21}$ units related by an inversion center share a  $[O(13)–$  $O(13)$ ] edge to form the  $U_8O_{40}$  entity that constitutes the secondary building unit (SBU) of the bi-dimensional arrangement, Fig. 4. In fact the  $U(1)O_7$  and  $U(4)O_7$ bipyramids form a linear arrangement similar to the  $(UO<sub>5</sub>)$  chain limited to four bipyramids, this four pyramids length chain is intersected at the ends by three

bipyramids length chains U(3)U(4)U(2) forming eight bipyramids block which can be pictured by a capital I letter. Each block is linked by corner-sharing to six equivalent blocks to form the bi-dimensional arrangement (Fig. 5). This arrangement creates two kinds of sites, a five sides polygon which can be considered as the juxtaposition of a square and a triangle, the square is occupied by a square tetragonal  $W(1)O_5$ , and a larger I shaped hole which can be decomposed in three squares and four triangles, two squares are occupied by very

Table 7



Fig. 6. The staking of the  $(U_2WO_{10})^{2-}$  layers in the  $M_2(UO_2)_2(WO_5)O$  $[M=K(3), Rb(4)]$  compounds with the  $M^+$  ions in the interspace.

distorted tetragonal pyramids  $W(2)O_5$ . The  $W(1)O_5$ square pyramid is linked by edge-sharing to three  $UO<sub>7</sub>$ polyhedra from three different  $U_8O_{40}$  blocks. The  $W(2)O<sub>5</sub>$  tetragonal pyramid is linked by edge-sharing to one  $UO_7$  polyhedron of one  $U_8O_{40}$  block and by corner-sharing to two  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  polyhedra, one of the same  $U_8O_{40}$  block and the second of an other block. So the tetragonal pyramids  $W(1)O_5$  and  $W(2)O_5$  are connected to two and three  $U_8O_{40}$  blocks, respectively. The arrangement of  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  and  $WO<sub>5</sub>$  polyhedra leads to layers  $(U_4W_2O_{20})^{4-}$  parallel to  $(10\bar{1})$  (Fig. 6). The K or Rb cations lie in the interspace and insure the cohesion of the structure.

In compounds 3 and 4, the four independent uranium atoms are bonded to two oxygen atoms at short distances with an average U–O bond distance in the range 1.79–1.84 and 1.75–1.78 Å for the potassium and rubidium compounds, respectively, to form nearly linear uranyl ions  $U_0^2$ <sup>+</sup>. Each uranyl ion is surrounded in the equatorial plane by a pentagonal environment of oxygen atoms that are situated at an average distance in the range from  $2.34$  to  $2.35 \text{\AA}$  for the both compounds forming a pentagonal bipyramidal coordination  $(UO<sub>2</sub>)O<sub>5</sub>$  which represents the most common environment of  $U^{6+}$  ions. The two independent W(1) and W(2) tungsten atoms are coordinated by five oxygen atoms to form a square pyramidal environment with average distances  $\langle W-O \rangle \approx 1.85 \text{ Å}$  for both compounds and apical oxygen atoms  $[O(9)$  and  $O(10)]$  situated at shorter distances, 1.71 and 1.78 Å for  $K_2({\rm UO}_2)_2$ (WO<sub>5</sub>)O (3), and 1.70 and 1.77 Å for the rubidium compound 4.



Selected bond distances ( $\AA$ ) and bond valences for  $K_2(\text{UO}_2)_2(\text{WO}_5)$ O

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-1 + x$ ,  $y$ ,  $-1 + z$ ; (ii)  $1 - x$ ,  $-y$ ,  $2 - z$ ; (iii)  $x, y, -1 + z$ ; (iv)  $-0.5 + x, 0.5 - y, -0.5 + z$ ; (v)  $2 - x, -y, 3 - z$ ; (vi)  $1 + x, y, 1 + z$ ; (vii)  $1 + x, y, z$ ; (viii)  $0.5 + x, 0.5 - y, 0.5 + z$ ; (ix)  $1 - x, -y, 3 - z$ ; (x)  $x, y, 1 + z$ ; (xi)  $-1 + x, y, z$ ; (xii)  $0.5 + x, 0.5 - y$ ,  $1.5 + z.$ 

Selected bond lengths and bond valences for 3 and 4 are given in Tables 7 and 8. The average bond valence sums calculations for U, W and  $K/Rb$  atoms provide values of 6.086, 6.252, 1.005 and 6.311, 6.062, 1.034 for potassium and rubidium compounds, respectively. For the oxygen atoms the calculated valence bond sums range from 1.842 to 2.355 and 1.948 to 2.277 with an average valence bond of 2.045 and 2.075, for  $K_2({\rm UO}_2)_2$  $(WO<sub>5</sub>)O$  and  $Rb<sub>2</sub>(UO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(WO<sub>5</sub>)O$ , respectively.

 $Na_{10}(UO_2)_2(W_2O_{10})(WO_4)O$  (5). The structure of 5 is built from  $UO<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids,  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra and  $WO_4$  tetrahedra. The  $U(1)O_7$  distorted pentagonal bipyramids share two opposite edges with two others  $U(1)O<sub>7</sub>$  polyhedra to form the  $(UO<sub>5</sub>)$  chain described for

Table 9

<span id="page-10-0"></span>Table 8 Selected bond distances ( $\AA$ ) and bond valences for  $Rb_2( UO_2)_2(WO_5)O$ (4)

				Selected bond distances ( $\AA$ ) and bond valences for $Na_{10}(UO_2)_8$
$(W_5O_{20})O_8(5)$				

Atom Distance  $s_{ii}$  Atom Distance  $s_{ii}$ 



Symmetry codes: (i)  $1 - x, -y, 2 - z$ ; (ii)  $-1 + x, y, z$ ; (iii)  $-0.5 +$  $x, 0.5 - y, -0.5 + z$ ; (iv)  $x, y, 1 + z$ ; (v)  $0.5 + x, 0.5 - y, -0.5 + z$ ; (vi)  $-1 + x, y, -1 + z$ ; (vii)  $x, y, -1 + z$ ; (viii)  $0.5 + x, 0.5 - y, 0.5 + z$ ; (ix)  $1 + x, y, 1 + z;$  (x)  $1 - x, -y, 3 - z;$  (xi)  $1 + x, y, z;$  (xii)  $-0.5 + x$ ;  $0.5 - y, 0.5 + z$ ; (xiii)  $-x, -y, 2 - z$ .

compound  $2$ . This chain runs down the  $c$ -axis. The  $U(2)O<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids are linked by edgesharing on both sides of the chain to form a three bipyramids wide ribbon running down the c-axis. A similar but crystallographically independent ribbon is formed from polyhedra around U(3) and U(4). The interior (UO<sub>5</sub>) chains of the ribbons (U(1)U(2)O<sub>9</sub>) and  $(U(3)U(4)O<sub>9</sub>)$  are located at about  $y = 0.5$  and 0.0, respectively ([Fig. 7](#page-11-0)). Similar one-dimensional three polyhedra wide ribbons built from edge-sharing distorted pentagonal bipyramids have been described in the



Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, 1 - y, 0.5 + z$ ; (ii)  $x, 1 - y, -0.5 + z$ ; (iii)  $0.5 - x$ ,  $0.5 + y$ ,  $1.5 - z$ ; (iv)  $0.5 - x$ ,  $0.5 - y$ ,  $2 - z$ ; (v)  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $-1 + z$ ; (vi)  $0.5 - x$ ,  $0.5 - y$ ,  $1 - z$ ; (vii)  $x, -y$ ,  $0.5 + z$ ; (viii)  $x, -y$ ,  $-0.5 + z$ ; (ix)  $x, y, 1 + z$ ; (x)  $-x, y, 1.5 - z$ ; (xi)  $-x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ ; (xii)  $-x, y$ ; 0.5 – z; (xiii)  $0.5 - x$ ,  $-0.5 + y$ ,  $1.5 - z$ ; (xiv)  $-x$ ,  $-y$ ,  $2 - z$ ; (xv)  $-x, y, 2.5 - z.$ 

<span id="page-11-0"></span>

Fig. 7. Projection of the layer (U<sub>4</sub>W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>22</sub>)<sup>8-</sup> along the *a*-axis of Na<sub>10</sub>U<sub>8</sub>W<sub>5</sub>O<sub>44</sub> compound (5) showing the connection between three polyhedra wide ribbons consisting of edge-sharing UO<sub>7</sub> pentagonal bipyramids and  $W_2O_{10}$  units consisting of two edge-sharing octahedra.

uranyl iodates  $AE[(UO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(IO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O)$  (AE=Sr, Pb) [\[14\]](#page-13-0). The W(1)O<sub>6</sub> and W(2)O<sub>6</sub> octahedra share an O(1)– O(7) edge to form a  $W_2O_{10}$  dimeric unit. The  $W_2O_{10}$ units link two parallel  $(U_2O_9)$  ribbons by sharing an edge and a corner with two  $U(2)O<sub>7</sub>$  pentagonal bipyramids of one ribbon and with two  $U(4)O<sub>7</sub>$ pentagonal bipyramids of the parallel ribbon resulting in layers parallel to (100). The unit cell contains four layers at  $x \approx 0.125, 0.375, 0.625, 0.875$ , respectively. The layers on both sides of  $x = 0.0$  and 0.5 are linked by WO4 tetrahedra resulting in pillared double layers or "sandwiches"  $(U_8W_5O_{44})^{10}$ , [Fig. 8](#page-12-0). The double layers sheets are stacked along the [100] direction and are separated by  $Na<sup>+</sup>$  ions. The other  $Na<sup>+</sup>$  ions are located in the rectangular tunnels running down the  $c$ -axis within the pillared double layers. A  $WO<sub>4</sub>$  tetrahedron, that acts as a pillar in the linkage of two layers, shares its four corners with two  $W_2O_{10}$  unit formed from edgeshared  $WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra$ , resulting in penta-nuclear anion  $W_5O_{20}^{10-}$  [\(Fig. 9\)](#page-12-0).

Selected interatomic distances and bond valences for compound 5 are given in [Table 9](#page-10-0). Astonishingly, the  $U=O$  bond lengths of the U atoms that belong to the

(UO<sub>5</sub>) chains (average  $\langle U=O \rangle$  = 1.843 Å for U(1) and 1.846 Å for  $U(3)$  are longer than the corresponding bonds for the other U atoms (average  $\langle U=O \rangle$  = 1.811 A for U(2) and 1.804 A for U(3)) that are in expected ranges for uranyl ions. However, similar and even higher  $U=O$  distances have already been observed, for example, in  $Ca_{12}[(UO_2)(CO_3)_3]_4Cl_8(H_2O)_{47}$  [\[44\]](#page-13-0)  $(U-Q(2)=1.84(1))$  A and in uranopilite  $[45]$  with  $(U(1)-O(1)=1.87(2))$ . In the equatorial plane the U–O distances show significant variations with values ranging from 2.189 to 2.587 Å, the long distances are with oxygen atoms from  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra and the shortest with the oxide atoms shared between three  $UO<sub>7</sub>$ polyhedra. However, the average U–O equatorial distances for each U atom  $(2.312, 2.335, 2.302,$  and 2.332 Å for U(1), U(2), U(3), and U(4), respectively) are in good agreement with the value obtained for U atoms in pentagonal bipyramidal environment [\[40\].](#page-13-0)

The  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra are highly distorted as in  $K_2(UO_2)(W_2O_8)$  with W–O distances ranging from 1.743 to 2.243 A for W(1) and from 1.742 to 2.250 A for W(2), the longest bonds are with oxygen that are shared with a  $WO_4$  tetrahedron. In the  $W(1)-O(7)-W(2)-O(1)$ 

<span id="page-12-0"></span>

Fig. 8. Projection of the structure of Na<sub>10</sub>U<sub>8</sub>W<sub>5</sub>O<sub>44</sub> (5) along c-axis showing the connection of two consecutive  $(U_4W_2O_{22})^{8-}$  layers by WO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra to form a sheet of pillared double layers and the Na<sup>+</sup> ions in the rectangular tunnel and in the interlayer between sheets.



Fig. 9. The (W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>20</sub>) polyanion formed by two W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub> units consisting of edge-sharing octahedra connected by a WO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedron.

ring short and long distances alternate. The WO4 tetrahedron is nearly regular with an average W–O distance  $(1.76 \text{ Å})$  in good accordance with the sum  $I^V r(W^{6+}) + I^V r(O^{2-}) = 1.80$  Å [\[46\]](#page-13-0).

Bond valence sums calculations provide average values of  $6.159$  and  $6.137$  for U and W atoms, respectively. For the sodium atoms the calculated valence bond sums range from 0.722 to 1.041 and for

<span id="page-13-0"></span>oxygen atoms from 1.873 to 2.290, with average values of 0.898 and 2.021 for sodium and oxygen atoms, respectively.

## 4. Conclusion

In the studied uranyl compounds, uranium is systematically in a pentagonal bipyramidal environment with two short U=O bonds and five longer equatorial distances. The pentagonal bipyramids share equatorial edges to form various arrangements: (i) one polyhedron wide chains in compounds 1 and 2, (ii) bi-dimensional network in compounds 3 and 4 and (iii) three polyhedra wide ribbons in compound 5. In compounds 1, 2, and 5, the chains or ribbons are linked by  $WO<sub>6</sub>$  octahedra, two  $WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra forming a W<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub> dimmer by edge$ sharing, resulting uranium tungsten oxides layers. In compounds 3 and 4, the sites created by the  $UO<sub>7</sub>$ arrangement are occupied by distorted  $WO_5$  square pyramids.

In compounds 1, 2, 3, and 4, the uranium tungsten layers are separated by the alkali ions. In compound 5, two consecutive layers are pillared by  $WO<sub>4</sub>$  tetrahedra resulting in the formation of sheets of two layers thickness. Two types of  $Na<sup>+</sup>$  ions occupy the rectangular tunnels within the sheets and the inter-sheet space, respectively. Substitution or exchange of these two types of  $Na<sup>+</sup>$  ions are plane, the study of the mobility of intratunnel and inter-sheet species would be interesting.

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