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# Crystal Structure Refinement of $\mathrm{SrMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{SrWO}_{4}, \mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}$, and $\mathrm{BaWO}_{4}$ by Neutron Diffraction* 

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#### Abstract

The crystal structures of $\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{SrMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{SrWO}_{4}$, and $\mathrm{BaWO}_{4}$ have been refined from neutron diffraction data taken in the ( h 0 l ) and ( hhl ) zones. Oxygen position refinement is started from the parameters proposed by Sillén and Nylander and results in an improvement of over an order of magnitude in the oxygen coordinates. A comparison of coordinates for the different compounds shows several systematic differences.


In 1943, Sillén and Nylander ${ }^{1}$ carefully reviewed the evidence for the oxygen positions in a series of scheelite crystals such as $\mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$. They were led to propose oxygen coordinates which were nearly constant fractions of the $a, b$, and $c$ unit-cell dimensions, but with necessarily large limits of uncertainty,
$\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$ :

$$
x=0.25 \pm 0.02, y=0.15 \pm 0.02, z=0.075 \pm 0.015,
$$

$\mathrm{SrMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{SrWO}_{4}$ :

$$
x=0.25 \pm 0.02, y=0.14 \pm 0.02, z=0.075 \pm 0.015
$$

$\mathrm{PbMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{PbWO}_{4}:$

$$
x=0.25 \pm 0.02, y=0.13 \pm 0.02, z=0.075 \pm 0.015
$$

$\mathrm{BaMoO}_{4}, \mathrm{BaWO}_{4}$ :

$$
x=0.25 \pm 0.02, y=0.11 \pm 0.02, z=0.075 \pm 0.015 .
$$

Recently two refinement studies were simultaneously reported for $\mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$, one from x-ray diffraction data by Zalkin and Templeton ${ }^{2}$ and the other from neutron diffraction data by Kay, Frazer, and Almodovar. ${ }^{3}$ The results from the two are in remarkably good agreement. A neutron-diffraction refinement has also been reported by Leciejewicz ${ }^{4}$ for $\mathrm{PbMoO}_{4}$. We have attempted to duplicate the treatment of Kay et al. on four additional scheelites to allow a closer comparison among the compounds than has thus far been possible. The diffraction
measurements were made at the $2.0-\mathrm{MW}$ University of Michigan Ford Nuclear Reactor.

The scheelite structures are represented by the generic form $\mathrm{AXO}_{4}$, where A is $\mathrm{Ca}, \mathrm{Sr}$, or Ba and X is Mo or W. These crystals all belong to the space group $C_{4 h^{6}}\left(I 4_{1} / a\right)$, space group No. $88 .{ }^{5}$ For the cell origin at $\overline{4}$, the coordinates of all atom positions are

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(0,0,0 ; \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)+ \\
& \quad 4 \mathrm{~A} \text { in } 4 b \text { at }\left(0,0, \frac{1}{2}\right) ;\left(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}\right) \\
& 4 \mathrm{X} \text { in } 4 a \text { at }(0,0,0) ;\left(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}\right) \\
& 16 \mathrm{O} \text { in } 16 f \text { at }(x, y, z) ;(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, z) ;\left(x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{1}{4}-z\right) ; \\
& \quad\left(\bar{x}, \frac{1}{2}-y, \frac{1}{4}-z\right) ;(\bar{y}, x, \bar{z}) ;(y, \bar{x}, \bar{z}) ; \\
& \quad\left(\bar{y}, \frac{1}{2}+x, \frac{1}{4}+z\right) ;\left(y, \frac{1}{2}-x, \frac{1}{4}+z\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Figure 1 shows a $b$-axis projection of the unit cell, where the notation is that of Sillén and Nylander and the numbers on each atom are the fractional $y$ coordinates (for $\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}$ ). The unit-cell parameters deduced from powder diffraction data ${ }^{6}$ were used. These are, in Angstrom units,

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}: & a=5.226, c=11.43, \\
\mathrm{SrMMO}_{4}: & a=5.3944, c=12.02, \\
\mathrm{SrWHO}_{4}: & a=5.4168, c=11.951, \\
\mathrm{BaWO}_{4}: & a=5.6134, c=12.72 .
\end{array}
$$



Fig. 1. The $b$-axis projection of a unit cell. The numbers for each atom are the $y$ coordinates in fractions of the cell dimension. The approximate numbers for $\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}$ are shown.

All samples were synthetically grown (we are indebted to R. T. Farrar of the Harry Diamond Laboratories for providing these crystals) and were approximately 0.3 cm in diameter by $1.2-1.6 \mathrm{~cm}$ in length. Samples with the cylindrical axis along the [010] direction and along the [110] direction were used to measure all available Bragg events in the ( $h 0 l$ ) and ( $h \mathrm{hl}$ ) zones, respectively. Spot checks of the measurements on $\mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$ by Kay et al. were made initially to verify reproducibility; the values obtained for the structure factors were in good agreement with those of Kay et al. except for a few very weak reflections. These we have attributed to multiple scattering.

The least squares refinement program of Busing, Levy, and Martin, ${ }^{7}$ with necessary modifications, was used to reduce the neutron data. The neutron scattering lengths used were as follows ${ }^{8}$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
b_{\mathrm{O}} & =0.577 \times 10^{-12} \mathrm{~cm}, \\
b_{\mathrm{Ba}} & =0.52, \\
b_{\mathrm{Ca}} & =0.49, \\
b_{\mathrm{M} 0} & =0.661, \\
b_{\mathrm{Sr}} & =0.683, \\
b_{\mathrm{W}} & =0.466 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Data from the strongly reflecting planes (0012),
(204), (208), and (402) consistently showed significant extinction and were not included in the refinement. However, they were used to provide small ( $<10 \%$ ) extinction corrections to all other recorded events; an average approximate exponential coefficient was obtained by comparing the measured intensities of these strong events with computed intensities required by the uncorrected refinement parameters. The refinement was then repeated. The extinction effect on the final coordinates was small, well below the final error limits, although they improved the residues somewhat. No thermal diffuse scattering correction and no anisotropic temperature refinement were felt to be justified for these data. The effect of these omissions is negligible in the coordinate determinations, but does introduce error in the temperature factors. This was demonstrated by a number of computer test runs on all the data.

Many computer trials also demonstrated that it was possible for the least squares refinement to converge on false minima for different starting coordinates. These invariably showed worse residues. This pitfall, also encountered in lattice dynamics, was overcome by trial and error and the physical consistency of all the results. It was thus not true in all cases that the starting parameters were exactly those of Sillén and Nylander.

The observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table I together with the residual factors. Table II gives the resulting parameters and their standard deviations and those of Refs. 2-4 for $\mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$ and

Table I. Observed and calculated structure factors and residues.

| ( $h k l$ ) | $\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}$ |  | $\mathrm{SrMoO}_{4}$ |  | $\mathrm{SrWO}_{4}$ |  | $\mathrm{BaWO}_{4}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $F_{\text {obs }}$ | $F_{\text {cale }}$ | $F_{\text {obs }}$ | $F_{\text {cale }}$ | $F_{\text {obs }}$ | $F_{\text {calc }}$ | $F_{\text {obs }}$ | $F_{\text {calo }}$ |
| 004 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.66 | 0.42 |
| 008 | 0.53 | 0.11 | 0.46 | 0.07 | 0.36 | 0.38 | 2.08 | 2.04 |
| 103 | 2.48 | 2.44 | 1.87 | 1.74 | 1.28 | 1.19 | 1.94 | 1.92 |
| 105 | 2.22 | 2.28 | 2.77 | 2.77 | 3.38 | 3.37 | 3.03 | 3.09 |
| 107 | 2.05 | 2.15 | 2.69 | 2.63 | 3.20 | 3.27 | 2.76 | 2.80 |
| 109 | 2.47 | 2.17 | 1.36 | 1.24 | 0.85 | 0.80 | 0.87 | 0.80 |
| 1011 | 1.56 | 1.25 | 0.67 | 0.47 |  |  |  |  |
| 1013 | 1.18 | 1.43 | 1.39 | 1.25 | 0.61 | 0.57 | 1.71 | 1.64 |
| 200 | 1.44 | 1.22 | 0.40 | 0.21 | 0.72 | 0.69 | 0.36 | 0.35 |
| 202 | 2.90 | 2.97 | 2.86 | 2.99 | 2.91 | 2.99 | 3.42 | 3.45 |
| 206 | 0.47 | 0.08 | 0.51 | 0.32 |  |  | 0.88 | 0.77 |
| 2010 | 2.62 | 2.66 | 3.10 | 3.00 | 2.87 | 2.87 | 3.58 | 3.46 |
| 2014 |  |  |  |  | 2.22 | 2.27 | 1.71 | 1.65 |
| 301 | 1.15 | 1.19 | 1.87 | 1.89 | 2.58 | 2.64 | 2.02 | 2.09 |
| 303 | 2.01 | 2.06 | 1.90 | 1.89 | 2.46 | 2.53 | 1.29 | 1.40 |
| 305 | 4.65 | 4.67 | 3.38 | 3.36 | 3.20 | 3.15 | 2.69 | 2.57 |
| 307 | 4.61 | 4.51 | 3.19 | 3.28 | 3.02 | 3.06 | 2.54 | 2.62 |
| 309 | 2.16 | 1.64 | 1.50 | 1.24 | 2.25 | 2.04 | 0.44 | 0.24 |
| 3011 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1.03 | 0.86 |
| 3013 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.13 | 2.06 |
| 400 | 5.19 | 5.10 | 4.78 | 4.63 | 4.38 | 4.31 | 3.03 | 3.04 |
| 404 |  |  | 4.62 | 4.66 | 4.36 | 4.24 | 3.48 | 3.42 |
| 406 |  |  |  |  | 0.57 | 0.42 | 1.38 | 1.32 |
| 408 | 3.90 | 4.03 | 4.62 | 4.54 | 4.01 | 4.15 | 3.35 | 3.33 |
| 4010 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5.87 | 5.90 |
| 501 | 1.49 | 1.31 |  |  | 0.61 | 0.63 | 0.82 | 0.81 |
| 503 |  |  | 2.25 | 2.22 | 2.68 | 2.65 | 3.07 | 3.16 |
| 505 | 0.59 | 0.75 | 1.16 | 1.25 |  |  | 2.13 | 2.24 |
| 507 | 0.83 | 0.71 |  |  |  |  | 1.49 | 1.28 |
| 600 | 3.58 | 3.27 | 2.92 | 2.64 | 2.79 | 2.82 | 0.27 | 0.21 |
| 602 | 5.05 | 5.53 | 3.79 | 3.88 | 4.34 | 4.39 | 1.77 | . 187 |
| 604 |  |  |  |  | 4.70 | 4.67 | 3.87 | 3.98 |
| 606 |  |  |  |  | 0.49 | 0.28 |  |  |
| 116 | 4.13 | 4.39 | 4.27 | 4.36 | 3.75 | 3.82 |  |  |
| 1110 | 4.56 | 4.48 | 4.89 | 4.74 | 4.47 | 4.34 |  |  |
| 1112 | 0.43 | 0.31 | 0.90 | 1.01 | 0.57 | 0.64 |  |  |
| 1114 |  |  | 4.30 | 4.59 |  |  |  |  |
| 222 | 0.84 | 0.68 | 1.20 | 1.08 | 1.34 | 1.22 |  |  |
| 224 | 3.22 | 3.44 | 4.05 | 4.27 | 3.72 | 3.57 |  |  |
| 226 | 0.27 | 0.02 |  |  | 0.37 | 0.08 |  |  |
| 228 | 3.54 | 3.23 | 4.12 | 4.00 | 3.57 | 3.38 |  |  |
| 2210 |  |  | 0.99 | 1.08 | 1.03 | 1.17 |  |  |
| 2212 |  |  | 5.12 | 5.33 |  |  |  |  |
| 332 | 4.84 | 4.99 | 5.26 | 5.44 | 4.83 | 5.11 |  |  |
| 334 | 2.67 | 2.68 | 3.62 | 3.67 | 3.23 | 3.29 |  |  |
| 336 | 3.47 | 3.32 | 3.18 | 3.09 | 2.35 | 2.41 |  |  |
| 338 | 2.55 | 2.43 | 3.30 | 3.13 | 2.97 | 2.93 |  |  |
| 3310 |  |  | 5.10 | 4.89 |  |  |  |  |
| 440 | 2.52 | 2.34 | 2.16 | 2.20 | 2.48 | 2.47 |  |  |
| 442 |  |  |  |  | 1.07 | 0.77 |  |  |
| 446 |  |  | 0.85 | 0.05 |  |  |  |  |
| Residue |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table II. Fractional oxygen coordinates and temperature factors. The isotropic factors $B$ have dimensions of square angstroms and are related to the isotropic $\beta_{i j}$ factors by $\beta_{i j}=$ $\delta_{i j \frac{1}{4}} a_{i}{ }^{* 2} \mathrm{~B}, i=1,2,3$. Thus for oxygen in $\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}$ the $\mathrm{B}_{0}$ would give $\beta_{11}=\beta_{22}=0.0068, \beta_{33}=0.0014$.


Table III. Bond lengths and near-neighbor distances.

|  | $\mathrm{CaMoO}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{SrMoO}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{SrWO}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{BaWO}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$ |  | $\mathrm{PbMOO}_{4}$ Ref. 4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Ref. 3 | Ref. 2 |  |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{X}_{1}$ | $1.757 \pm 0.005$ | $1.766 \pm 0.005$ | $1.779 \pm 0.003$ | $1.781 \pm 0.003$ | $1.788 \pm 0.003$ | 1.78 | 1.772 |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{A}_{1}$ | 2.459 | 2.591 | 2.579 | 2.738 | 2.438 | 2.44 | 2.61 |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{A}_{2}$ | 2.471 | 2.617 | 2.610 | 2.777 | 2.479 | 2.48 | 2.63 |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{O}_{1}$ | 2.964 | 2.950 | 2.972 | 2.958 | 2.984 | 2.98 | 2.955 |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{O}_{2}$ | 3.093 | 3.191 | 3.233 | 3.296 | 3.142 | 3.14 |  |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{O}_{4}$ | 2.924 | 3.033 | 3.045 | 3.212 |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{O}_{6}$ | 2.820 | 2.851 | 2.870 | 2.884 | 2.879 | 2.88 | 2.865 |
| $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ | $115^{\circ} 0^{\prime}$ | $113^{\circ} 14^{\prime}$ | $113^{\circ} 15^{\prime}$ | $112^{\circ} 17^{\prime}$ | $113^{\circ} 27^{\prime}$ |  | $112^{\circ} 50^{\prime}$ |
| $\gamma$ | $106^{\circ} 46^{\prime}$ | $107^{\circ} 36^{\prime}$ | $107^{\circ} 32^{\prime}$ | $108^{\circ} 06^{\prime}$ | $107^{\circ} 56^{\prime}$ |  | $107^{\circ} 40^{\prime}$ |
| $\mathrm{X}_{1}-\mathrm{O}_{4}$ | 2.945 | 3.103 | 3.079 | 3.313 |  | 2.91 | 3.15 |
| $\mathrm{A}_{1}-\mathrm{X}_{1}$ | 3.871 | 4.037 | 4.032 | 4.241 | 3.867 |  |  |
| $\mathrm{A}_{2}-\mathrm{X}_{2}$ | 3.695 | 3.814 | 3.830 | 3.969 | 3.707 |  |  |
| $\left(\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{A}\right)_{\mathrm{Av}}$ | 2.465 | 2.604 | 2.594 | 2.758 | 2.458 |  |  |
| $(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{A})_{\text {oxide }}$ | 2.405 | 2.580 | 2.580 | 2.761 | 2.405 |  |  |

$\mathrm{PbMO}_{4}$. Interatomic dimensions and some resulting angles are given in Table III.

Our data appear to be somewhat inferior to the data for $\mathrm{CaWO}_{4}$. As expected, there is little consistency in the temperature factors for the A - and X -atom species. Nevertheless, we believe the results are sufficiently accurate to permit the following comparative observations:
(a) The tetrahedral bond length, $\mathrm{X}-\mathrm{O}$, is independent of the $A$ species for a given $X$, within the experimental precision. ${ }^{9}$
(b) The setting angle of the oxygen tetrahedron in the $a b$ plane (angle between the $x y$ projection of $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{X}_{1}$ and the $X$ axis) diminishes systematically with increasing A, changing from 31 to $25.7^{\circ}$ for the molybdates and from 32 to $27.8^{\circ}$ for the tungstates.
(c) The presence of two slightly different bond lengths connecting the A ion with its eight oxygen neighbors ( $\mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{A}_{1}, \mathrm{O}_{0}-\mathrm{A}_{2}$ ) is evident in all cases, the magnitudes in the present data being somewhat less consistent than shown in Refs. 2 and 3.
(d) If the average of the two A-O distances for each scheelite is compared with the empirical interionic radii given by Pauling, ${ }^{10}$ the agreement is very close. The percentage differences between the average scheelite separations and those given by Pauling for $\mathrm{Ca}-\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{Sr}-\mathrm{O}$, and $\mathrm{Ba}-\mathrm{O}$, respectively, are $2.9 \%, 2.5 \%$, and $0.3 \%$. The agreement is essentially the same when the Goldschmidt numbers are used. ${ }^{11}$ If these averages are
compared to measured $\mathrm{CaO}, \mathrm{SrO}$, and BaO separations, ${ }^{12}$ the percentage differences are $2.3 \%, 0.7 \%$, and $0.1 \%$, respectively.

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[^1]
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