

The Crystal Structure of Zunyite

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The structure proposed by Pauling for the rare aluminosilicate mineral zunyite ($\text{Al}_{13}(\text{OH})_{18}\text{Si}_5\text{O}_{20}\text{Cl}$) has been confirmed and refined with the use of 163 $hk0$ reflections and 409 hhl reflections obtained with Mo $K\alpha$ radiation from single crystal Weissenberg photographs. The structure is isometric (T_h^2) and is built up of Si_5O_{16} groups of linked silicon tetrahedra combined with $\text{Al}_{12}\text{O}_{16}(\text{OH})_{30}$ groups of linked aluminum octahedra. Refinement is carried out independently for the $hk0$ and hhl data, and the final reliability factors are 0.12 for both sets of data. Positional parameters are refined by the least-squares method, and isotropic temperature parameters for separate atoms are adjusted with the help of difference syntheses. The refined structure differs from the trial structure by distortion of coordination polyhedra in a fashion similar to the distortions in related structures. The interatomic distance Al-O of $1.80 \pm 0.016 \text{ \AA}$ is derived for tetrahedrally coordinated aluminum. The averaged Si-O distance is $1.64 \pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$. The arrangement of protons in the structure is deduced from structural arguments. The proposed arrangement requires the inclusion of at least two fluorine atoms per stoichiometric molecule, modifying the chemical formula to $(\text{OH}, \text{F})_{16}\text{F}_2\text{Al}_{13}\text{Si}_5\text{O}_{20}\text{Cl}$ and explaining the importance of fluorine in the formation of zunyite.

Introduction

The structure proposed by Pauling (1933) for the rare aluminosilicate mineral zunyite has several unusual features. Although the ratio Si:Al in the substance is close to 1:3, the proposed structure arranges the silicon atoms together in the unique Si_5O_{16} group (Fig. 1), rather than separating them in isolated SiO_4 tetrahedra, as found in the polymorphs of Al_2SiO_5 and as might be expected from the zunyite formula $\text{Al}_{13}(\text{OH})_{18}(\text{SiO}_4)_5\text{Cl}$. Twelve of the thirteen aluminum atoms in the structure are octahedrally coordinated by oxygen and are linked together to form the unique group $\text{Al}_{12}\text{O}_{16}(\text{OH})_{30}$ (Fig. 1). The thirteenth aluminum atom is in tetrahedral coordination, the AlO_4 tetrahedron being isolated both from the SiO_4 tetrahedra and from other AlO_4 tetrahedra.

The unusual features of the structure make an examination by modern methods desirable. Pauling (1933) showed that the proposed structure was in accord with the space-group symmetry, that it accounted exactly for the dimensions of the unit cell, and that it satisfied the electrostatic valence rule (Pauling, 1939, p. 384). In addition, he calculated intensities of 72 X-ray reflections from the structure, and found good agreement with observed intensities, the value of the residual $\sum |I_o - I_c| / \sum I_o$ being 0.29. These facts were strong indication that the proposed structure was essentially correct, but no systematic verification and refinement of such a complex structure was possible at the time.

The present study was undertaken to verify the zunyite structure and to obtain accurate interatomic

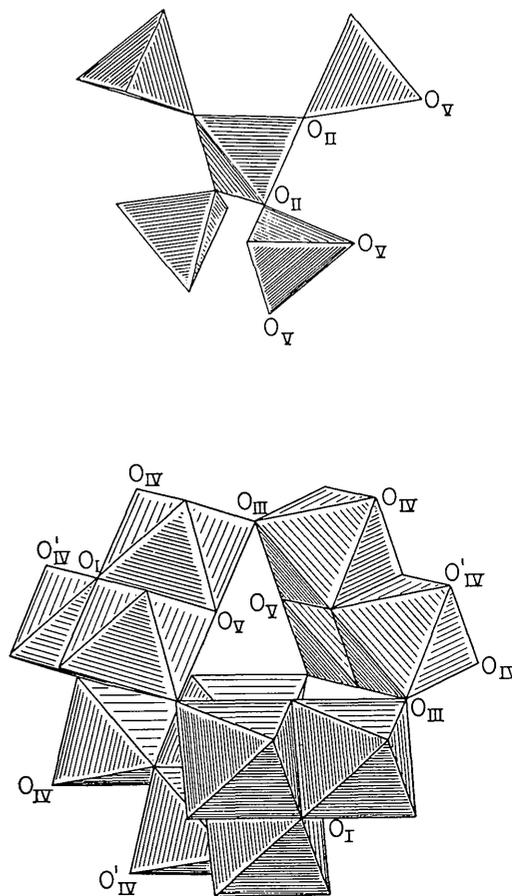


Fig. 1. Structural elements in zunyite: the Si_5O_{16} group (above), and the group of linked AlO_6 octahedra (below).

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distances for an examination of the shapes of the coordination polyhedra, for a verification of the isolation of silicon in the Si_5O_{16} groups, and to provide a determination of the Al–O distance for tetrahedrally coordinated aluminum.

Experimental

Perfect, clear tetrahedral crystals of zunyite, 0.2 to 0.6 mm. in size, were obtained from a specimen of zunyite–gütermannite rock from the Zufi Mine, near Silverton, Colorado. Zero layer Weissenberg photographs about [100] and [110] as rotation axes were obtained with $\text{Mo } K\alpha$ radiation. The reflections were recorded on multiple films interleaved with copper foil. From a crystal rotating about [100], 133 of the 163 possible $hk0$ reflections were observed. A separate crystal (rotation axis [110]) provided 409 hhl reflections, of which 340 were strong enough to record. Intensities of the reflections were estimated visually by comparison with standard intensity scales, and were corrected for the Lorentz and polarization effects in the usual way. They were placed on an absolute scale by comparison with calculated intensities in the course of the refinement.

Space group and cell dimensions

Zunyite is isometric, crystallizes with tetrahedral habit, and shows Laue symmetry O_h . The absence of all reflections having mixed indices and the presence of hhl with h and l odd defines the space group as $T_d^2-F\bar{4}3m$. The size of the cell was measured by means of a rotation photograph of the Straumanis type with the crystal rotating about [100]. The result, $a_0 = 13.87 \pm 0.01$ Å (based on $\lambda_{\text{Cu } K\alpha_1} = 1.5405$ Å) differs from the value 13.820 ± 0.005 obtained by Pauling, the difference being accounted for in part by the difference between the old and new wavelength scales.

Atomic positions for the structure proposed by Pauling (1933), hereafter called the trial structure, are given in Table 3. The density 2.87 g.cm.⁻³ calculated from the contents and size of the unit cell is to be compared with experimental values (Pauling, 1933, p. 445) that range from 2.87 to 2.90 g.cm.⁻³.

Verification and refinement of the structure

Examination of the structure was made principally with the use of the $hk0$ data, because of the centrosymmetry of the (100) projection. A preliminary comparison of calculated and observed $hk0$ structure factors for the 43 reflections out to $\sin^2 \theta/\lambda^2 = 0.5$ provided a provisional temperature parameter $B = 0.6$ Å², and resulted in a residual $R_1 = \sum |F_o - F_c| / \sum |F_o|$ of 0.33. A Fourier synthesis of the (100) projection, carried out with signs calculated from the trial structure for the 43 reflections out to $\sin^2 \theta/\lambda^2 = 0.5$, reproduced all the general features of the trial structure

and suggested several parameter changes. Based on the new parameters, a calculation of structure factors for all 163 $hk0$ reflections ($\sin^2 \theta/\lambda^2$ out to 1.9) gave a residual R_1 of 0.27. Successive least-squares refinement of positional parameters, using a weighting system of the kind described for the hhl data (below), then lowered R_1 to 0.17.

Atomic scattering factors for Si^{+4} , Al^{+3} , Cl^- , and F^- were obtained from Berghuis *et al.* (1955). Scattering factors for O^{-2} were obtained by correcting the factors for O, given by Berghuis *et al.* (1955), by the difference between values for O^{-2} and O from the *Internationale Tabellen*. The use of scattering factors appropriate to a purely ionic structure has no special justification, and was chosen from among the various alternatives simply because the electronegativities of the various atoms suggest that the bonds have on the average more nearly ionic rather than covalent character. An intermediate choice would be preferable, if a reliable basis for determining the amount of electron transfer were known. Electron counts on the final Fourier projections suggest that aluminum and silicon atoms (which are essentially indistinguishable) contain about 11 electrons, and the oxygen atoms about 9, but these numbers are rather uncertain. On the refined difference maps no systematic electron-density discrepancies attributable to errors in the assumed scattering factors are recognized.

Calculations were carried out with the IBM 604, and Fourier syntheses were calculated by the ‘M-card’ method on the IBM 402. In the least-squares calculations, off-diagonal terms in the normal equation matrix were calculated because of overlap of the atoms O_I , O_{II} , and O_{IV} in the (100) projection (Fig. 2). Although the overlap looks serious in the Fourier synthesis, the portion of the normal equation matrix for parameter shifts of the overlapping atoms was found on inclusion of all reflections to be

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{O}_I \quad \text{O}_{II} \quad \text{O}_{IV} \\ \text{O}_I \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1.00 & -0.19 & -0.68 \\ -0.20 & 1.00 & 0.90 \\ -0.33 & 0.42 & 1.00 \end{array} \right] \\ \text{O}_{II} \\ \text{O}_{IV} \end{array}$$

indicating resolution of the three parameter shifts adequate for a complete refinement using $hk0$ data alone. (In writing the matrix, each normal equation has been multiplied by a separate factor so as to make the diagonal coefficients equal to 1.00, hence the matrix is not symmetric.)

A difference synthesis ($\rho_o - \rho_c$) for the (100) projection, calculated with the results of the least-squares refinement, showed errors in the assumed thermal motions and indicated that different isotropic temperature parameters should be introduced for the different atoms. Least-squares calculation of the separate temperature parameter adjustments gave unsatisfactory predictions, requiring for the chlorine parameter a slight decrease in B_{Cl} whereas the difference map indicated a substantial increase in B_{Cl} .

and 0.03 Å for any oxygen–oxygen distance. Most cation–oxygen distances, however, have an accuracy (expressed as estimated standard deviation) close to ± 0.01 Å, and most oxygen–oxygen distances close to ± 0.02 Å. An upper limit of $\pm 1.3^\circ$ is estimated for the bond-angle accuracy.

The most important distances in the structure are the Si–O distances, and the Al–O distance for the tetrahedrally coordinated aluminum atoms. From the data given in Table 1 of Kamb (1960) one can estimate

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Si-O (average distance)} &= 1.64 \pm 0.01 \text{ \AA} \\ \text{Al-O}_I \text{ (tetrahedral)} &= 1.80 \pm 0.016 \text{ \AA}\end{aligned}$$

Discussion of the structure

Interatomic distances calculated from the final atomic coordinates (Table 3) are given in Table 4, with corresponding distances in the trial structure for comparison. The refined structure differs from the trial structure in the following ways: (1) enlargement of the SiO₄ tetrahedra; (2) enlargement of the AlO₄ tetrahedron; (3) increased separation of aluminum atoms in octahedra sharing edges; (4) distortion of the AlO₆ octahedra, with pronounced shortening of shared edges; (5) decrease in the Cl–O_{III} distance.

Table 3. *Atomic coordinates*

Atom	Position	Parameter	Trial value	Final value
16 Si _{II}	<i>e</i>	x_1	0.117	0.1143
16 O _I	<i>e</i>	x_2	–0.177	–0.1750
16 O _{II}	<i>e</i>	x_3	0.184	0.1818
24 O _{III}	<i>f</i>	z_4	0.273	0.2780
48 O _{IV}	<i>h</i>	x_5	0.181	0.1793
		z_5	0.545	0.5466
48 O _V	<i>h</i>	x_6	0.136	0.1385
		z_6	0.006	0.0003
48 Al _{II}	<i>h</i>	x_7	0.089	0.0853
		z_7	–0.228	–0.2333
4 Cl	<i>b</i>	—	—	—
4 Si _I	<i>c</i>	—	—	—
4 Al _I	<i>d</i>	—	—	—

Position	Coordinates of equivalent atoms
	(0, 0, 0; 0, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{2}$; $\frac{1}{2}$, 0, $\frac{1}{2}$; $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, 0) +
48 <i>h</i>	$x, x, z; z, x, x; x, z, x; \bar{x}, x, \bar{z}; \bar{z}, x, \bar{x}; \bar{x}, z, \bar{x}; x, \bar{x}, \bar{z}; z, \bar{x}, \bar{x}; x, \bar{z}, \bar{x}; \bar{x}, \bar{x}, z; \bar{z}, \bar{x}, x; \bar{x}, \bar{z}, x$
24 <i>f</i>	$x, 0, 0; 0, x, 0; 0, 0, x; \bar{x}, 0, 0; 0, \bar{x}, 0; 0, 0, \bar{x}$
16 <i>e</i>	$x, x, x; x, \bar{x}, \bar{x}; \bar{x}, x, \bar{x}; \bar{x}, \bar{x}, x$
4 <i>d</i>	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$
4 <i>c</i>	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$
4 <i>b</i>	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$

Enlargement of the SiO₄ tetrahedra is probably due to partial replacement of silicon by aluminum. An Si–O distance of 1.64 ± 0.01 Å corresponds to random replacement of 1.1 ± 0.3 out of every five silicon atoms by an aluminum atom, on the basis of Smith's (1954) discussion of interatomic distances in silicates. The chemical analyses (Pauling, 1933) indicate a maximum

Table 4. *Interatomic distances and bond angles*

Tetrahedra			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
Si _I –O _{II}	1.59 Å	1.64 Å	
Si _{II} –O _{II}	1.59	1.62 ₅	
Si _{II} –O _V	1.59	1.65	
Al _I –O _I	1.74	1.80	
Octahedra			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
Al _{II} –O _I	1.86 Å	1.93 Å	
Al _{II} –O _{III}	1.85	1.78	
Al _{II} –O _{IV}	1.89	1.86	
Al _{II} –O _V	1.93	1.92	
Chlorine			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
Cl–O _{III}	3.14 Å	3.08 Å	
Cl–O _{IV}	3.59	3.58	
Tetrahedron edges:			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
O _{II} –O _{II}	2.60 Å	2.67 Å	
O _{II} –O _V	2.60	2.66	
O _V –O _V	2.60	2.72	
O _I –O _I	2.84	2.94	
Octahedron edges			
Unshared			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
O _I –O _{IV}	2.68 Å	2.69 Å	
O _{III} –O _{IV}	2.67	2.64	
O _{III} –O _V	2.67	2.73	
O _{IV} –O _{IV}	2.67	2.60	
O _{IV} –O _V	2.64	2.67	
O _V –O _V	2.84	2.72	
Average	2.68	2.67 ₅	
Shared			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
O _I –O _V	2.64 Å	2.53 Å	
'Non-bonded', contact			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
O _{IV} –O' _{IV}	2.71 Å	2.77 Å	
Cation–Cation			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
Si _I –Si _{II}	3.18 Å	3.26 Å	
Si _{II} –Al _{II}	3.27	3.24	
Al _{II} –Al _{II}			
Sharing edge	2.72	2.90	
Sharing O _{III} corner	3.49	3.34	
Sharing O _{IV} corner	3.58	3.56	
Al _I –Al _{II}	3.17	3.24	
Cl–Al _{II}	4.16	4.06	
Angles			
Atoms	Trial	Final	
Al _{II} –O _{III} –Al _{II}	142°	139.2°	
Al _{II} –O _{IV} –Al _{II}	142	146.6	

of 0.4 out of 5 silicon atoms replaced. Without further information on the reliability of the chemical analyses, it is not possible to comment on this discrepancy.

The Al–O distance of 1.80 ± 0.016 Å for tetrahedrally

coordinated aluminum is to be compared with the value 1.78 ± 0.02 Å accepted by Smith (1954).

The increased size of the SiO_4 tetrahedra causes increased O–O distances in the Si_5O_{16} group. The $\text{O}_V\text{--O}_V$ distances increases by an amount (0.06 Å)

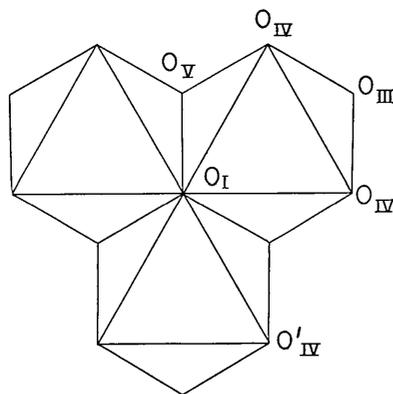


Fig. 5. The Al_3O_{13} group in zunyite, viewed along a 3-fold axis. 'Non-bonded', oxygen atoms form the pairs $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}\text{--O}'_{\text{IV}}$.

significantly greater than other O–O distances in the group, producing a distortion in the outer four tetrahedra of the group, by enlarging the outward-directed faces of these tetrahedra. This distortion is caused by the effects of repulsion between the aluminum atoms.

The effects of this repulsion are probably the most striking features which distinguish the trial and final structures. The Al_{II} atoms occur in groups of three at the centers of three octahedral groups of oxygen atoms, sharing edges to form an Al_3O_{13} group (Fig. 5). In the trial structure, the octahedra are nearly regular in shape, and the aluminum atoms are located nearly centrally in them, the distance $\text{Al}_{\text{II}}\text{--O}_V$ being elongated somewhat by the pulling in of the oxygen atoms toward silicon. In the refined structure, the aluminum atoms increase in separation by 0.18 Å, and the octahedral groups become markedly distorted. The shared edges contract to a length of 2.53 Å. There is a general rearrangement of the other O–O distances, but the average length of the unshared edges does not change significantly. The increased separation of Al_{II} atoms is facilitated by the decrease in the $\text{O}_V\text{--O}_V$ octahedral edge length, the distance $\text{Al}_{\text{II}}\text{--O}_V$ remaining practically unchanged. The Al_{II} atoms move away from the centers of the distorted octahedral groups, and toward the O_{III} atoms. This effect is strikingly shown in the (110) projection of the structure (Fig. 3), in which the Al_{II} peak is noticeably offset from the geometrical center of the projected $\text{O}_I\text{--}^2\text{O}_V\text{--O}_{\text{III}}\text{--}^2\text{O}_{\text{IV}}$ octahedron. The average Al–O distance, 1.88 Å, remains in close agreement with the radius sum, 1.90 Å (Pauling, 1939).

The contraction of the shared edges to 2.53 Å is in harmony with shared-edge lengths in aluminum octahedra found in other structures: 2.50 Å in diaspore (Ewing, 1935) and 2.49 ± 0.03 Å (average value) in gibbsite (Megaw, 1934). The usual comparison with

corundum (*Strukturbericht*, 1931, p. 242), for which a value 2.49 Å is quoted, does not seem entirely justified, inasmuch as the value 2.49 Å refers to the edge of a face shared between two octahedra, while the lengths of single edges shared between octahedra is 2.61 Å. It would be desirable to compare the shared-edge length with values found in the chemically related structures of topaz, andalusite, sillimanite, and kyanite, but the early determinations of these structures have not been systematically refined. The available values (*Strukturbericht*, 1937, pp. 110–117) are scattered: 2.59, 2.83 and 2.47 Å.

Location of protons in the structure

Of the 38 oxygen atoms in the zunyite structural unit, 18 must have protons attached in order to satisfy the electrostatic valence rule, or must be substituted by fluorine (Pauling, 1933). It has proved impossible to locate these protons by X-ray means, but the interatomic distance and bond angle information give definite indication of the scheme of proton arrangement in the crystal.

Pauling's reasoning (1933) shows that the protons are associated with the O_{III} and O_{IV} atoms. We first consider O_{III} . Comparison of the observed Cl– O_{III} distance of 3.08 Å with the sum of the Cl and O crystal radii, 3.21 Å, indicates that the proton on O_{III} forms a hydrogen bond with chlorine. In $\text{FeCl}_2 \cdot 4 \text{H}_2\text{O}$, Penfold & Grigor (in press) report that oxygen–chlorine distances for which the bond angles allow hydrogen bonding range from 3.07 Å to 3.45 Å, and Harker (1936) found $\text{OH} \cdots \text{Cl}$ distances of 3.05 Å in $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and 3.05 Å in $\text{K}_2\text{CuCl}_4 \cdot 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$. From Wells' (1949) data for atacamite, $\text{Cu}_2\text{Cl}(\text{OH})_3$, I calculate $\text{OH} \cdots \text{Cl}$ distances of 3.07 Å (for OH_{II}) and 2.85 Å (for OH_1), all other oxygen–chlorine distances being greater than 3.20 Å. The distance 2.85 Å is suspect, and corresponds to an oxygen atom for which the y parameter was considered uncertain by Wells (1949). The water molecules in $\text{MgCl}_2 \cdot 6 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Andress & Gundermann, 1934) are considered, on the basis of distortion of the coordination polyhedra about Mg, to form hydrogen bonds with chlorine, but the shortest oxygen–chlorine distances reported are 3.21 Å. This lack of indication of hydrogen-bonding may be attributable to the large Cl–O–Cl angle of about 155° at the water molecules (Donohue's survey (1952) suggests that for N–H \cdots O bonds a deviation of the acceptor oxygen by 40° from collinearity with the N–H group increases the N–H \cdots O bond length by 0.2 Å or more). A similar situation apparently exists in $\text{Cd}(\text{OH})\text{Cl}$ (Hoard & Grenko, 1934), where each OH group bonds to three equidistant Cl^- ions, the proton deviating by 41° from collinearity with the O–Cl pairs, and the oxygen–chlorine distance being 3.22 Å. Recently Yoon & Carpenter (1959) have found an $\text{OH} \cdots \text{Cl}$ distance of 2.95 ± 0.01 Å in $\text{HCl} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, and

they refer to $\text{OH}\cdots\text{Cl}$ distances of 2.99 Å, 2.99 Å, and 2.91 Å in organic chlorides.

The clear indication of hydrogen-bonding between OH and Cl is in contradiction to a statement by Wells (1950, p. 424). The observed range of decrease of the oxygen-chlorine distance from the crystal radii sum, from no shortening to 0.30 Å or (questionably) 0.36 Å shortening, compares with the shortening range zero to 0.30 Å for $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds (Donohue, 1952; an instance of shortening by 0.40 Å has been found by Takei (1957)). It is to be expected that the same factors—electronegativities of nearby atoms, and degree of collinearity of the proton with donor and acceptor atoms, in addition to steric factors—are responsible for the range of bond distances observed for both types of bond. To the extent that the strengths of $\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ and $\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ bonds are measured by the covalent bond numbers associated with these bonds, one may expect, as suggested by Pauling (private communication), that for an $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ bond of the same strength as an $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ bond the $\text{O}-\text{Cl}$ distance will be greater than the $\text{O}-\text{O}$ distance by the difference between the $\text{H}-\text{Cl}$ distance in HCl and the $\text{H}-\text{O}$ distance in H_2O (vapor), that is, 0.31 Å. Thus the hydrogen bonds of intermediate strength in ice correspond to $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ bonds of length 3.07 Å, close to the observed distance in zunyite, and the expected range of $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ bond lengths is from about 2.85 Å (strong H-bonds) to about 3.2 Å (weak H-bonds), in satisfactory agreement with observation. From this same point of view we may compare the $\text{OH}\cdots\text{Cl}$ distances in $\text{HCl}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and in zunyite by noting that in $\text{HCl}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, the coordination of three H_3O^+ ions in nearly tetrahedral relative orientation about each Cl^- ion allows one electron pair of the Cl^- valence shell to be involved in forming each of the hydrogen bonds, whereas in zunyite the octahedral coordination of Cl by O_{III} atoms allows only $\frac{2}{3}$ electron pair to be associated with each $\text{OH}\cdots\text{Cl}$ bond. Accordingly the expected increase in bond length in zunyite is $0.6 \log \frac{2}{3}$ or 0.11 Å, close to the observed value 0.13 Å.

It is difficult, however, to judge independently to what extent the $\text{OH}\cdots\text{Cl}$ distance in zunyite is determined by the 'equilibrium' H-bond distance and to what extent by steric factors. That there are forces pulling the O_{III} atom in toward Cl is shown by the short observed value of the $\text{O}_{\text{III}}-\text{O}_{\text{IV}}$ distance, which is compressed by such a motion, and the long $\text{O}_{\text{III}}-\text{O}_{\text{V}}$ distance, which is simultaneously extended. While these distances indicate a structural restriction on the approach of O_{III} toward Cl, at the same time the $\text{O}_{\text{III}}-\text{Al}_{\text{II}}$ distance, which is the shortest in the AlO_6 octahedra, and which would be increased by a displacement of O_{III} toward Cl, doubtless indicates a force tending to offset the restriction due to the oxygen atoms.

The above considerations indicate that the proton lies essentially along the line of centers between the Cl and O_{III} atoms, and this is compatible with the

bond angles at O_{III} . Bernal & Megaw (1935) have pointed out that the proton in hydrogen bonding tends to assume a tetrahedral orientation with respect to the surrounding cations, as seen from the oxygen ion to which the proton is attached. Pauling suggests (private communication) that the acceptable proton positions be found by the intersection of cones of apex angle $360^\circ - 2(109^\circ 28')$, the apices located at the oxygen ion and the cone axes directed toward the surrounding cations. As the cation-oxygen-cation angle is increased from the tetrahedral value, the possible proton positions approach one another, and when this angle reaches 141° the cones become tangent and the single possible proton position is coplanar with the two cations and the oxygen ion. This is very nearly the situation at O_{III} , because the $\text{Al}_{\text{II}}-\text{O}_{\text{III}}-\text{Al}_{\text{II}}$ angle is 139° . The symmetry then places the proton along the $\text{O}_{\text{III}}-\text{Cl}$ line.

Fluorine probably does not substitute for O_{III} , because the sum of the fluorine and chlorine crystal radii is 3.17 Å, and there would be no hydroxyl bonding.

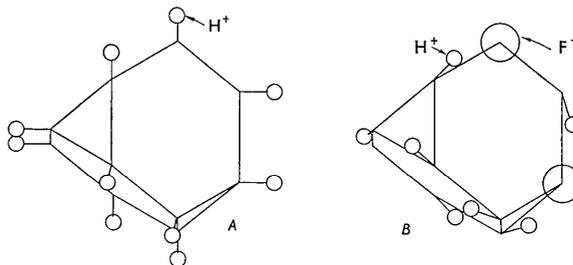


Fig. 6. The truncated tetrahedral group $\text{AlO}_4(\text{OH})_{12}$ in zunyite. In *A*, the protons are arranged in the way required by the 'coplanarity' argument. The arrangement in *B* is the one proposed on the basis of interatomic distances, and shows the two fluorine atoms required for minimal electrostatic energy.

We now turn to the O_{IV} atoms, of which there are 12 in the structural unit. These atoms are arranged at the corners of a truncated regular tetrahedron, shown in Fig. 6, at the center of which is the Al_{I} atom. The O_{I} atoms lie at the centers of the four large faces of the truncated tetrahedron. Each of these large faces forms the face of an Al_3O_{13} group (better, $\text{Al}_3\text{O}_4(\text{OH})_9$) which attaches on the outside.

Now the bond angle $\text{Al}_{\text{II}}-\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{Al}_{\text{II}}$ is 147° . If this be interpreted to require that the protons occupy the coplanar positions, as at O_{III} , then they must stick out perpendicular to the long edges of the truncated tetrahedron, as shown in Fig. 6 *A*. This places the atoms O_{IV} and O'_{IV} (Fig. 5) in a non-bonding arrangement (Bernal & Megaw, 1935), an arrangement which is unlikely in view of its expected effect on the $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{O}'_{\text{IV}}$ distance. The O_{IV} and O'_{IV} atoms are not bonded together by forces from within the truncated tetrahedron. Instead, they form one edge of a tetrahedral group of oxygen atoms with no cation at the center. Neither are the O_{IV} and O'_{IV} atoms bonded together

by forces from the Al_3O_{13} group outside. There again they form part of a tetrahedron with no central cation, as can be seen in Fig. 5. There is therefore every reason to expect the $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{O}'_{\text{IV}}$ distance to approach the non-bonded hydroxyl distance of 3.2 Å or greater. This expectation is substantiated in gibbsite, in which the octahedral groups distort in such a way that the oxygen atoms equivalent to O_{IV} and O'_{IV} are placed at an average distance of 3.20 ± 0.20 Å (see Megaw, 1934). The actual $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{O}'_{\text{IV}}$ distance is only 2.77 Å. Although this is notably the longest O–O distance in the Al_3O_{13} group, it falls far short of the expected non-bonded distance, and is instead a typical hydrogen-bonded distance.

We therefore introduce hydrogen bonds between the O_{IV} and O'_{IV} atoms by rearranging the protons according to a scheme such as shown in Fig. 6 B, in which one proton is assigned to each long edge of the truncated tetrahedron, and one to each truncation, sticking out toward the chlorine atom. In disregarding the requirement of coplanarity we make use of the fact that the angle $\text{Al}_{\text{II}}-\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{Al}_{\text{II}}$ is greater than 141° , and that the more nearly 180° is approached, the less determinative is the tetrahedral orientation, so that the protons become free to adopt positions most favorable electrostatically. It seems clear that the configuration proposed in Fig. 6 B, is more favorable in this way than the configuration required by coplanarity, because it reduces the repulsive potential between the O_{IV} and O'_{IV} atoms. But in any case the proposed arrangement is required by the interatomic distances.

The proton arrangement proposed for the O_{IV} atoms of zunyite allows only 10 of the 12 protons to be placed in the truncated tetrahedral group. Two more could be added, of course, by introducing two protons into positions on two of the truncated corners. This would make the O_{IV} atoms non-bonding on these corners, but inasmuch as these atoms are held directly to the same aluminum cations no conspicuous distance effects would be expected. However, such an arrangement is bound to have higher energy (lower binding energy) than the 10-proton arrangement, and it can be avoided by replacing two of the O_{IV} atoms by fluorine. This, indeed, appears to be the true role of fluorine in the structure. That fluorine does have a special role is suggested in a striking way by the synthesis of presumed zunyite by Schlaepfer & Niggli (1914). The mineral was synthesized under hydrothermal conditions in the presence of a small amount of fluorine, but not without. The Zuñi Mine crystals contain consistently about 3–3.5 atoms of F out of the 18 (OH + F), which accords with the above expectations. The same is true for the new analyses of crystals from Uaxactum (Palache, 1932) and from Kazakhstan (Astashenko & Moleva, 1939). For the Postmasburg material values of only 0.3–0.5 for F are reported, but for two of the three analyses the sum OH + F is low by about 2.0 and the third was considered untrust-

worthy by Pauling (1933) for other reasons. Hence there seems to be support for the proposed special role of fluorine in the zunyite structure, a role which can be expressed by reformulating the composition thus: $(\text{OH},\text{F})_{16}\text{F}_2\text{Al}_{13}\text{Si}_5\text{O}_{20}\text{Cl}$.

The proposed proton–fluorine arrangement is of course statistical, the configuration shown in Fig. 6 B, being only one of many equally likely configurations.

Relationship to other structures

Zunyite is classified by Dana (1932, p. 591) with helvite and the ultramarines, probably on the basis of morphological symmetry. There is no basic relationship, however, the only feature in common being the inclusion of chlorine or other large ions in the structures. There is no counterpart in any other known structure for the Si_5O_{16} group in zunyite, whose existence conflicts with the well-known rule that silicon tetrahedra do not share corners unless the ratio O:Si is less than 4:1 (Bragg, 1937, p. 140). The closest structural relative of zunyite is diaspore, AlHO_2 , which is built by linking together $\text{Al}_3(\text{OH})_{13}$ groups of the kind found in zunyite. The groups link together by sharing edges to form endless ribbons through the structure (the double rutile strings of Ewing), and the ribbons are linked together by sharing corners of aluminum octahedra and by hydroxyl bonds. The linking is such that no ‘non-bonded’ oxygen atoms equivalent to $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{O}'_{\text{IV}}$ in the Al_3O_{13} group occur, because every pair of oxygen atoms is common to at least one octahedral group around an aluminum atom. The nearest equivalent in diaspore of the $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{O}'_{\text{IV}}$ pair in zunyite is a pair of hydroxyls which are an unshared edge with respect to one ribbon and a ‘non-bonded’ pair with respect to the adjoining one. The interatomic distance of this pair is 2.84 Å, which is accurately known because it is the *c*-axis length of the crystal. This distance is significantly larger than the $\text{O}_{\text{IV}}-\text{O}'_{\text{IV}}$ distance of 2.77 Å in zunyite, and provides additional support for the expected repulsion between non-bonded hydroxyl ions.

In böhmite the ribbons are linked together in a different way, with the result that OH^- and O^{2-} positions are distinguished in the structure, a point of similarity with zunyite.

The aluminosilicate minerals andalusite, sillimanite, kyanite, topaz, and zunyite all have ratios $\text{Al}:\text{Si} \cong 2:1$, and it would be desirable to give a structural interpretation of the conditions required for the stability of each. This cannot be done adequately, but it may be noted that a basic hydrothermal environment leads to topaz ($\text{Al}_2(\text{OH},\text{F})_2\text{SiO}_4$), and the additional requirement of including chlorine atoms would favor the zunyite structure.

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Accuracy of Atomic Positions in the Zunyite Structure

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The accuracy of positional parameters in the refined zunyite structure is estimated by four different statistical methods, including a comparison of two entirely independent refinements of the structure. The estimates show tolerable agreement, but disagree as to the importance of F_o measurement error in affecting the parameter error. Reliable estimates of $\pm 0.008 \text{ \AA}$ (standard deviation) for oxygen coordinates and $\pm 0.003 \text{ \AA}$ for silicon and aluminum coordinates are obtained.

Introduction

In a separate paper (Kamb, 1960) a detailed study of the structure of zunyite ($\text{Al}_{13}\text{Si}_5\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_{18}\text{Cl}$) is reported. Because of current interest in accurate interatomic distances in silicate structures, I considered it worthwhile to compare different statistical methods for estimating the accuracy of atomic positions in the refined zunyite structure.

There are four essentially independent ways in which the accuracy of atomic positions in the structure can be estimated: (1) *a priori* estimation of parameter variances by the method of Booth & Britten (1948); (2a) *a posteriori* estimation from the agreement of observed and calculated intensities in the least-squares refinement, or (2b) from the final difference maps by the methods of Cruickshank (1949a, b); (3) comparison of the results of the independent $hk0$ and hhl refinements; (4) comparison of independent Si-O distances in

the same tetrahedron or in different tetrahedra if there is no preferential ordering of silicon and aluminum.

A priori estimate

The method given by Booth & Britten (1948) and revised by Lipson & Cochran (1953) enables a lower limit for the attainable parameter variances to be estimated from a knowledge of the measurement errors of the F_o 's. Comparisons of two independent measurements of the $hk0$ reflections, and also of the hhl , shows that for both sets of data the standard deviation estimate for the visually estimated logarithm of the intensity is 0.05. For the average of two such independent measurements, the standard deviation estimate of the structure factors is $0.04|F_o|$. To use this information for an *a priori* prediction of the parameter variances by a relation of the type given by Lipson & Cochran (1953), the high symmetry of the (100) projection used in the refinement must be

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