A STRUCTURAL MODEL OF THE LAYER TITANOSILICATE BORNEMANITE BASED ON SEIDOZERITE AND LOMONOSOVITE MODULES

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ABSTRACT

Bornemanite is a rare alkali titanosilicate occurring in the natrolite zone of the Yubileynaya hyperagpaitic pegmatite, on Karnasurt Mountain, in the Lovozero massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia. The mineral is light yellow, lamellar (001) and elongate [010]. No single crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography are available. New electron-microprobe chemical analyses, selected-area electron diffraction (SAED) and X-ray powder diffraction show that bornemanite, BaNa$_3$[(Na,Ti)$_4$[(Ti,Nb)$_2$O$_2$Si$_4$O$_{14}$(F,OH)$_2$]PO$_4$, is monoclinic $I_1b$, $a$ 5.498(4), $b$ 7.120(6), $c$ 47.95(4) Å, $\gamma$ 88.4(1)$^\circ$; $Z$ = 4. By comparison with structural and chemical data for titanosilicates based on a bafertisite-like layer (heterophyllosilicates), a model of the structure of bornemanite has been obtained. This model has been refined by the distance least-squares technique (DLS program) and tested against calculated powder-diffraction and SAED patterns. The structure of bornemanite can be described as a [001] stacking of heterophyllosilicate layers, where lomonosovite and seidozérite contents alternate in the interlayer spaces. Thus this structure is the first documented case of a heterophyllosilicate based on modules of two other structures belonging to the same modular series, i.e., the mero-plesiotype bafertisite series. The lomonosovite–seidozérite polysomatic series is defined. In contrast to the original description, bornemanite is considered monoclinic and not orthorhombic, and lacks one cation per formula unit (mainly Na). Possible leaching of alkalis and the solid-state oriented transformation lomonosovite $\rightarrow$ bornemanite are discussed.

Keywords: bornemanite, new data, crystal structure, heterophyllosilicate, Lovozero massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia.

SOMMAIRE

La bornemanite, titanosilicate rare à alcalins, provient de la zone à natrolite de la pegmatite hyperagpaitique de Yubileynaya, sur le mont Karnasurt, faisant partie du complexe de Lovozero, péninsule de Kola, en Russie. Le minéral est jaune pâle, se présentant en lamelles (001) allongées selon [010]. Aucun cristal unique n’a été trouvé pour des études cristallographiques par rayons X. De nouvelles données sur la composition, obtenues avec une microsonde électronique, et sur la structure (diffraction des électrons sur aire sélectionnée, diffraction X sur poudre) montrent que la bornemanite, BaNa$_3$[(Na,Ti)$_4$[(Ti,Nb)$_2$O$_2$Si$_4$O$_{14}$(F,OH)$_2$]PO$_4$, serait monoclinique $I_1b$, $a$ 5.498(4), $b$ 7.120(6), $c$ 47.95(4) Å, $\gamma$ 88.4(1)$^\circ$; $Z$ = 4. En comparaison avec les données structurales et chimiques sur les titanosilicates possédant une couche semblable à la bafertisite (hétérophyllosilicates), nous avons obtenu un modèle de la structure de la bornemanite. Nous avons pu affiner ce modèle en utilisant la technique des distances évaluées par moindres carrés (logiciel DLS) et le tester par comparaison avec les spectres calculés de diffraction sur poudre et de diffraction d’électrons. Nous décrivons la structure de la bornemanite en termes d’un empilement de couches de hétérophyllosilicate le long de [001] dans laquelle le contenu de lomonosovite et de seidozérite alternent dans les espaces interfoliaires. Cette structure serait donc le premier cas bien documenté d’un hétérophyllosilicate contenant des modules de deux autres structures faisant partie de la même série modulaire, c’est-à-dire la série de la bafertisite, à caractère mero-plésiotypique. On définit la série polysomatique de la lomonosovite–seidozérite. Contrairement à ce qui est déjà dans la littérature, la bornemanite serait monoclinique et non orthorhombique, et démontrerait une déficience d’un cation par unité formelle, surtout Na. Nous abordons le sujet d’un lessivage possible des alcalins et d’une transformation orientée de la lomonosovite en bornemanite à l’état solide.

(Traduit par la Rédaction)

Mots-clés: bornemanite, nouvelles données, structure cristalline, hétérophyllosilicate, complexe de Lovozero, péninsule de Kola, Russie.

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Bornemanite, BaNa$_3$(Na,Ti)$_4$[(Ti,Nb)$_2$O$_2$Si$_4$O$_{14}$](F,OH)$_2$PO$_4$, was discovered in the natrolite zone of the Yubileynaya pegmatite, Mount Karnasurt, Lovozero massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia (Men’shikov et al. 1975). Since then, two other bornemanite-bearing pegmatites belonging to the same massif, Shkatulka and Sirenevaya, have been found (Pekov 2000). According to Pekov (2000), lamellar bornemanite of Yubileynaya develops along cleavage planes of lomonosovite and occasionally completely replaces it. In the other two pegmatites mentioned, on the other hand, bornemanite occurs as spherulites associated with lomonosovite among other minerals; in the Sirenevaya pegmatite, bornemanite occasionally is seen also to replace lomonosovite. Because of the lack of suitable single crystals, the crystal structure of bornemanite remains unknown, even if similarities with layer titanosilicates were pointed out (Ferraris et al. 1997).

The availability of a sample (NH–10), originally collected by Yu.P. Men’shikov and conserved in the collection of the Institute of Ore Deposits, Petrography, Mineralogy and Geochemistry (IGEM, Moscow), prompted us to improve on the characterization of bornemanite. In this sample, millimetric (001) lamellar grains of light yellow bornemanite occur on the (001) faces of large crystals of lomonosovite. All attempts to find a single crystal of bornemanite suitable for X-ray diffraction failed. In order to obtain information with which to model the structure of bornemanite, we investigated sample NH–10 with a combination of X-ray and electron-diffraction methods, and characterized it by electron-microprobe analysis.

**EXPERIMENTAL**

The main experimental data were obtained with a Philips CM12 transmission electron microscope (TEM) (LaB$_6$ filament, operated at 120 kV; University of Torino), an electron microprobe ARL–SEMQ [operated in wavelength-dispersion (WDS) mode at 20 nA, 15 kV; University of Modena and Reggio Emilia] and a Philips X’Pert X-ray powder diffractometer (CuK$_\alpha$ radiation; University of Milano).

TEM observation of the lamellar grains reveals that they consist of very thin laths (typically about 0.2 mm) that show a perfect {001} cleavage (Fig. 1c). At variance with Men’shikov et al. (1975), who reported [100] elongation on the basis of optical observations, our TEM study indicates a [010] elongation.

The results of the WDS electron-microprobe analyses reported in Table 1 represent 11 point analyses collected from two different grains. On the basis of 4 Si atoms per formula unit (apfu), and according to the model of structure discussed below, the following crystal-chemical formula is obtained: (Na$_{2.64}$Ti$_{1.27}$Nb$_{0.69}$Zr$_{0.01}$)O$_{2.67}$Si$_{4.62}$O$_{14.8}$(F,OH)$_{0.71}$PO$_{4.1}$.

For this composition, a unit-formula weight of 904.26 and a calculated density $D$ of 3.203 g/cm$^3$ are obtained ($Z = 4$). The density observed by Men’shikov et al. (1975) is in the range of 3.47–3.50 g/cm$^3$, significantly higher but presumably affected by the presence of aegirine impurities; the scarcity of sample NH–10 did not allow a new measurement. The significantly lower content of alkalis, by about 1 apfu, between the original data, 6.43(Na + K), and our average results, 5.59(Na + K), is likely due to the presence of lomonosovite impurities in the large amount of sample used for the original wet-chemical analysis (but see below). In the chemical formula, following Ferraris et al. (2001), the composition of the heterophyllosilicate layer (HOH layer, see below) is shown within braces, and that of the heteropolyhedral H sheet is given between square brackets; finally, the composition of the interlayer is represented by the part outside the braces.

The formula of our sample of bornemanite can be approximated as BaNa$_2$Mn$_{0.5}$[Na$_3$Ti(Ti,Nb)O$_2$Si$_4$O$_{14}$](O$_{0.5}$OH$_{0.75}$F$_{0.75}$)PO$_4$, for which the unit-formula weight MW is 978.24 and $D$(calc) is 3.46 g/cm$^3$ ($Z = 4$).

The corresponding oxide composition, in wt%, is: SiO$_2$ (42.62), Al$_2$O$_3$ (0.15), FeO (0.22), MnO (0.06), Fe$_2$O$_3$ (0.06), CaO (0.06), SrO (0.06), MgO (0.02), K$_2$O (0.06), Na$_2$O (0.61), H$_2$O (0.61), Cl (0.03), F (0.03), CH$_4$ (0.01), O$_2$ (0.01), Total (100.02) $F = O$ (−0.54). The [001] projection of hk0 + hlk + hkl (f) are shown. The [001] SAED pattern (d) has been obtained from the [010] elongate platelet shown in (c).

![Fig. 1.](image-url)
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24.57, BaO 15.67, Nb₂O₅ 13.58, TiO₂ 16.33, Na₂O 17.42, F 1.45, P₂O₅ 7.25 and H₂O 0.69. The H₂O content agrees well with the value obtained by thermogravimetry, 0.7% (Men’shikov et al. 1975). An ideal formula for bornemanite can be written as BaNa₃[(Na,Ti)₄[(Ti,Nb)₂O₂Si₄O₁₄](F,OH)₂]PO₄, to be compared with the ideal formula BaNa₄Ti₂NbSi₄O₁₇(F,OH)₂Na₃PO₄ proposed in the original description; thus bornemanite is poorer in cations (mainly Na) than originally reported. Apart from possible errors in the original wet-chemical analysis, the lower content of cations in our sample can be due to leaching of alkalis, as discussed for delindeite by Ferraris et al. (2001).

Unfortunately, the availability of a structural model only, instead of a fully refined structure, does not allow a thorough discussion of this matter.

Selected-area electron diffraction (SAED) patterns have been obtained from two different orientations of the bornemanite (001) laths. (i) Electron beam along [100] (Fig. 1a): b ≈ 7.1, c ≈ 48 Å, k + l = 2n and symmetry cmm are observed. (ii) Electron beam along [001] (Fig. 1d): a ≈ 5.5, b ≈ 7.1 Å, c* ≈ 89°; reflections with even values of h and k are stronger than those with odd values. Owing to the small value of c*, the latter reflections belong to the upper layers hkl (h + k + n = 1) and hkl (h + k = 2n); on the whole, the [001] SAED pattern shows an approximate symmetry pmm.

We conclude that bornemanite is monoclinic, and its electron-diffraction patterns show the following systematic absences: h + k + l = 2n + 1 (all reflections) and k = 2n + 1 (hk0 reflections only). Thus, the space group is either $I12/b$ or $I1/b$; the latter is consistent with the structure model discussed below. The unconventional choice of the space group, instead of the conventional $C1c1$, is adopted to maintain correspondence with related (001) layer titanosilicate structures (see below).

The following parameters for the $I1$-centered cell have been obtained by refining the X-ray powder-diffraction data (Table 2), which were indexed by taking into account the intensities calculated from the structural model discussed below: a ≈ 5.5, b ≈ 7.1 Å, c ≈ 48 Å, $\gamma$ ≈ 89°. These parameters are comparable to those published by Men’shikov et al. (1975) who, however, indicated $I2m2$ as the possible space-group. The transformation matrix for the cell parameters from $I1/b$ to the conventional $C1c1$ space group is $1/\alpha00\alpha1/\alpha01/\alpha01/\alpha$. The cell parameters a 8.873, b 47.95, c 5.498 Å, $\beta$ 126.67° are obtained for the C-centered cell; the very obtuse $\beta$ angle of this cell is another reason for adopting the unconventional space-group $I1/b$.

**The Structural Model**

The values of the cell parameters and the presence of the complex anion $[(Ti,Nb)₂O₂Si₄O₁₄]$ in the chemical formula support a strong analogy between bornemanite and the seidozerite-derivative titanosilicates (or bafertisite polysomatic series), as inferred by Ferraris et al. (1997) and Ferraris (1997). The titanosilicates belonging to this series that have a known structure and that occur in the Lovozero massif (Khomyakov 1995, 1996).
Pekov (2000) are reported in Table 3. As recently reviewed (Ferraris et al. 2001), all these minerals contain the bafertisite-like heterophyllosilicate layer. This type of layer can be derived from the tetrahedra – octahedra – tetrahedra (TOT) layer of the layer silicates by replacing [100] rows of disilicate groups \([\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7]^{6–}\) by rows of \([\text{TiO}_6]^{8–}\) octahedra. In some minerals, Ti has a coordination of 5 instead of 6; it can also be replaced by cations such as Nb, Zr and Na (Fig. 2, Table 3). The substituted O sheet becomes a H heteropolyhedral sheet, and the so-called bafertisite-like heterophyllosilicate \(\text{HOH}\) layer is thus obtained. It is characterized by \(\sim 5\times 7\) Å two-dimensional periodicity in the (001) plane. In the \(\text{HOH}\) layer, two heteropolyhedral H sheets containing both tetrahedra and “octahedra” sandwich a more-or-less distorted sheet of octahedra in which various kinds of cations occur (Table 3). The various structures belonging to the bafertisite (or seidozerite) series consist of \(\text{HOH}\) layers that sandwich various kinds of anions and cations (Egorov-Tismenko 1998, Ferraris et al. 2001). The periodicity in the direction perpendicular to the \(\text{HOH}\) layer depends on the type of interlayer occupant. In particular, the structure of lomonosovite (Belov et al. 1978) consists of two \(\text{HOH}\) layers that sandwich \(\text{PO}_4\)\(^{3–}\) tetrahedra and \(\text{Na}^+\) (Fig. 2). In the structure of seidozerite (Simonov & Belov 1960), instead, two \(\text{HOH}\) layers link together because two adjacent Zr-bearing octahedra share an edge; the reduced interlayer space is occupied by \(\text{Na}^+\) cations only (Fig. 2).

A comparison of the cell parameters shows that \(c/2\) (23.97 Å) of bornemanite corresponds to the sum in thickness of one lomonosovite-like module (14.5 Å) and one seidozerite-like module (8.9 Å). Disregarding isomorph substitutions (like Ba for Na and Nb for Ti), it turns out that half the sum of the crystal chemical-formulae of lomonosovite, \([\text{Na}_8(\text{Na}_2\text{Ti}_2)[\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{14}]\text{[O,F]}_2]\) and seidozerite, \([\text{Na}_2(\text{Na,Mn, Ti})_4(\text{Na,Ti,Zr})_2\text{O}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{14}]\text{[F]}_2]\) (Table 3) corresponds well to the simplified crystal-chemical formula of...
Fig. 2. Structural model of bornemanite compared with the structures of seidozerite and lomonosovite. The three structures are seen along [100], and the interlayer cations Na and Ba are shown as circles.
bornemanite $\text{Ba}_n\text{Na}_3\{(\text{Na},\text{Ti})_4[(\text{Ti},\text{Nb})_2\text{O}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{14}](\text{F},\text{OH})_2]\text{PO}_4$. Starting from the structures of lomonosovite and seidozerite, it was possible to build a structure model for bornemanite based on alternating seidozerite-like and lomonosovite-like modules (Fig. 2). In practice, the structure of bornemanite can be described as a [001] stack of $\text{HOH}$ bateristite-like heterophyllosilicate layers in which lomonosovite and seidozerite interlayer contents alternate. In Table 4, we report the atom coordinates, which have been refined to $R = 0.052$ by the DLS distance least-squares programme (Baerlocher et al. 1978). The DLS program optimizes the atom coordinates of a structure under constrained values of selected atomic distances.

A refinement of the structure by Rietveld method is impossible in practice because of the structural complexity of this species, with its 37 independent atoms. The structure model was tested by comparing calculated and observed intensities of the powder-diffraction pattern (Table 2) and, more qualitatively, of [100] and [001] SAED patterns (Fig. 1) using the Ca.R.Ine program by Boudias & Monceau (1998). An overall temperature factor $B = 2 \text{ Å}^2$ was used for the intensity calculations.

By trial and error, the best agreement between calculated and experimental powder-diffraction intensities was achieved under the following conditions for site occupancies (Table 4): (i) mixed occupancy of the interlayer sites by $\text{Na} + \text{Mn}$ and $\text{Ba} + \text{Na}$; (ii) ordering of Ti and Nb within different $H$ sheets, with mixed Nb + Ti occupancy in one site. The Ti/Nb order is related to two distinct roles of the octahedra in the $H$ sheets; in fact, the Nb- and Ti-bearing octahedra of adjacent $H$ sheets share a corner, whereas in seidozerite, the corresponding Zr-bearing octahedra share an edge. This different behavior can be attributed to the higher charge of Nb$^{5+}$ compared to Zr$^{4+}$. Note that in bornemanite, as in other titanosilicates, Ti-bearing octahedra occur both in the $H$ sheets (a corner is shared with PO$_4$ occurring in the interlayer) and in the octahedra of the $O$ sheets. The main interatomic distances calculated with the coordinates of Table 4 are reported in Table 5.

The experimental distribution of intensities in the SAED patterns, obtained by incidence of the electron beam along [100] and [001], has been satisfactorily tested, even if only qualitatively, against the corresponding calculated patterns (Figs. 1b, c, f). As already mentioned, the calculation shows that owing to the small value of $c^2$, the SAED pattern along [001] corresponds to the intersection of the Laue sphere with $hk0$ and $hk2$ weighted reciprocal-lattice nodes. In the space group $I1\bar{h}b$, the expected diffraction-symmetry for the $hk0$ plane alone (Fig. 1e) is $p2$; instead, the presence of some local symmetry and the superposition of diffraction spots belonging to three reciprocal lattice planes produce an approximate $pmm$ symmetry in the observed $[001]$ SAED pattern (Figs. 1d, f). In the comparison between calculated and observed $[001]$ SAED patterns, one must take into account that the calculated pattern (Fig. 1f) is a projection of the $(hk0 + kh1 + hk2)$ slab of spherically weighted reciprocal-lattice nodes, whereas the observed pattern (Fig. 1d) is an intersection of the Laue sphere with [001] elongate nodes (spikes) bearing most of the diffracted intensity at their center. This effect is particularly evident for the 121 diffraction spot, which represents a clear disagreement between observed and calculated [001] SAED patterns.

**CONCLUSIONS**

The successful model of the structure of bornemanite represents a further example of the efficiency of the modular approach (Merlino 1997) in the investigation of minerals that do not offer single crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography (Ferraris et al. 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, Ferraris 1997, Khomyakov et al. 1998). Chemical, data, electron (SAED) and powder-diffraction patterns and a systematic comparison with known structures can provide the key for obtaining appropriate structure-models.

The structure of bornemanite is the first documented case containing modules of two different structures belonging to the same mero-plesiotype bafertisite series of layer titanosilicates, as defined by Ferraris et al. (2001). Thus, bornemanite is a polysome of a seidozerite–lomonosovite series. Ferraris et al. (2001) introduced the term mero-plesiotype series on the basis of

<table>
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<th>TABLE 5. SELECTED INTERATOMIC DISTANCES (Å) IN THE STRUCTURE MODEL OF BORNEMANITE</th>
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<tr>
<td>$\text{Si}^1$ – $\text{O}^1$: 1.627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{O}^1$: 1.617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{P}$ – $\text{O}^1$: 1.546</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\text{Na}^1$ – $\text{O}^1$: 2.636</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\text{O}^5$: 2.303</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\text{O}^9$: 2.347</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\text{O}^13$: 2.516</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\text{Na}^5$: 2.095</td>
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<td>$\text{O}^17$: 2.391</td>
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<td>$\text{O}^21$: 2.391</td>
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<td>$\text{O}^25$: 2.391</td>
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<td>$\text{O}^29$: 2.391</td>
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The Laue sphere is considered to be the basis for the family of structures represented by bornemanite.
Makovicky’s (1997) definition for a merotype series (at least a building module is common to all members of the series, but each member also can show peculiar modules) and a plesiotype series (the building modules of the series may differ for some parts in specific members). In fact, the bafertisite series contains aspects of both merotype and plesiotype series. Difficulties in preparing TEM mounts with the HOH layer parallel to the incident beam did not allow us so far to check for the occurrence of polysomes as stacking faults of the matrix structures.

The presence of the same HOH layer in the structures of bornemanite and lomonosovite explains well the orientated growth of the first species on the second one, mentioned earlier. Taking into account the complete substitution of lomonosovite by bornemanite reported by Pekov (2000), the lamellar bornemanite occurring in our sample can be interpreted as a secondary phase that formed from lomonosovite by a toptactoo reaction. This reaction is consequent to a destabilization that leads to cation leaching and exchange in the interlayer of the primary lomonosovite. Several cases of reactions that generate secondary phases by preserving either the full HOH layer [lomonosovite + H₂O → murmanite + (Na + P)] or the H sheet only [parakeldyshite → keldyshite] are reported by Khomyakov (1995). They have been interpreted by Ferraris (1997) as solid-state phenomena connected with the modular structures.

Note that in the case of bornemanite, the thickness t = d(001)/n, as defined in the footnote to Table 3, is no longer indicative of the complexity of a single interlayer, but depends on the presence of two different types of content in the interlayers. The modeling of the bornemanite structure broadens the versatile role of the HOH bafertisite-like layer. In fact, now this layer is known in the heterophyllosilicates, where it occurs together with the astrophyllite-like and nafertisite-like HOH layers (Christiansen et al. 1999, Ferraris et al. 1996), in the seidoziter-lomonosovite polyomastic series (this work), and in the complex mero-plesiotype bafertisite series (Ferraris et al. 2001) mentioned above.

In addition to being a contribution to the mineralogy of hyperalkaline rocks and the crystal chemistry of inorganic compounds, knowledge of the large variety of structures offered by the alkaline titanosilicates also can benefit applied science, as shown by an increasing interest in technological applications of derived structures. In fact, as recently reviewed by Rocha & Anderson (2000), several synthetic and natural titanosilicates show properties typical of the so-called microporous materials (molecular sieves) and can be used, for example, in catalytic processes.

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