Krotite CaAl₂O₄

Crystal Data: Monoclinic. *Point Group*: 2/m. As crystals to 350 μ m in aggregates.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: Good on $\{100\}$ and $\{010\}$. Fracture: Conchoidal. Tenacity: Brittle. Hardness = ~ 6.5 D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 2.944

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color*: Colorless. *Streak*: White. *Luster*: Vitreous. *Optical Class*: Biaxial (-). $\alpha = 1.608(2)$ $\beta = 1.629(2)$ $\gamma = 1.635(2)$ 2V(meas.) = 54.4(5)° 2V(calc.) = 55.6° *Dispersion*: None. *Orientation*: X = b, $Y \approx a$, $Z \approx c$. *Pleochroism*: Colorless to very pale gray. *Absorption*: Barely noticeable, X > Y = Z.

Cell Data: Space Group: $P2_1/n$. a = 8.6996(3) b = 8.0994(3) c = 15.217(1) $\beta = 90.188(6)^{\circ}$ Z = 12

X-ray Powder Pattern: NWA 1934 CV3 carbonaceous chondrite meteorite. 2.9771 (100), 2.4101 (40), 2.5273 (35), 1.4587 (33), 1.5279 (31), 4.694 (28), 1.5830 (23)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \textbf{Chemistry} : & & & (1) \\ & & Al_2O_3 & & 63.50 \\ & & \underline{CaO} & & 35.73 \\ & & Total & & 99.23 \\ \end{array}$

(1) NWA 1934 CV3 carbonaceous chondrite meteorite; average of 7 electron microprobe analyses supplemented by Raman spectroscopy; corresponds to Ca_{1.02}Al_{1.99}O₄.

Occurrence: Likely formed by condensation or crystallization from a melt in the solar nebula, now a Ca-Al-rich refractory inclusion in a carbonaceous chondrite meteorite. One of the earliest minerals formed in the solar system.

Association: Perovskite, gehlenite, hercynite, Cl-bearing mayenite, hexamolybdenum.

Distribution: From the NWA 1934 CV3 carbonaceous chondrite meteorite.

Name: Honors Alexander N. *Krot* (b. 1959), a cosmochemist, University of Hawaii, USA, for his contributions to the understanding of early Solar System processes.

Type Material: National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. (USNM 7590) and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California (63275), USA.

References: (1) Ma, C., A.R. Kampf, H.C. Connolly Jr., J.R. Beckett, G.R. Rossman, S.A. Sweeney Smith, and D.L. Schrader (2011) Krotite, CaAl₂O₄, a new refractory mineral from the NWA 1934 meteorite. Amer. Mineral., 96, 709-715.