

Crystal Data: Cubic. *Point Group:* n.d. In granular crystals, to 0.5 mm.

Physical Properties: *Fracture:* Subconchoidal. Hardness = 5.8–6.5 D(meas.) = 2.35
D(calc.) = 2.34

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color:* Colorless. *Streak:* White. *Luster:* Vitreous.
Optical Class: Isotropic. $n = 1.502(1)$

Cell Data: *Space Group:* n.d. $a = 5.975$ $Z = 1$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Altay mine, China.
1.798 (100), 1.996(80), 3.443 (20), 2.988 (20), 2.674 (20)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
SiO ₂	77.86	79.50
Al ₂ O ₃	1.45	
FeO	0.04	
CaO	2.82	
Na ₂ O	17.98	20.50
Total	100.15	100.00

(1) Altay mine, China; by electron microprobe, average of six analyses. (2) Na₂Si₄O₉.

Occurrence: As linings of miarolitic cavities in a Ta-Nb-Be-bearing granite pegmatite.

Association: Topaz, albite, muscovite, quartz, apatite, garnet.

Distribution: From the Altay pegmatite mine, Fuyun Co., 600 km northeast of Urumchi, Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, China.

Name: For the Ertixi River, near the occurrence in China.

Type Material: The Geological Museum, Chengdu Geological College, [Ch'engdu], China.

References: (1) Zhang Rubo, Han Fengming, and Du Chonliang (1985) Ertixiite – a new mineral from the Altay pegmatite mine, Xinjiang, China. *Geochemistry (China)*, 4, 192–195. (2) (1986) *Amer. Mineral.*, 71, 1544 (abs. ref. 1). (3) (1988) *Mineral. Mag.*, 52, 724 (abs. ref. 1).