Murchisite Cr<sub>5</sub>S<sub>6</sub>

**Crystal Data**: Hexagonal. *Point Group*:  $\frac{3}{2}$  2/m. As subhedral crystals to 4 mm.

**Physical Properties**: Cleavage: n.d. Fracture: n.d. Tenacity: n.d. Hardness = n.d. D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 4.22

**Optical Properties**: Opaque. *Color*: Gray in reflected light. *Streak*: n.d. *Luster*: n.d. *Optical Class*: n.d.

**Cell Data**: *Space Group*:  $P\overline{3} \ 1c$ . a = 5.982 c = 11.509 Z = 2

X-ray Powder Pattern: Murchison CM2 meteorite.

2.074 (100), 2.654 (86), 1.727 (86), 2.991 (59), 1.105 (37), 4.724 (31), 1.327 (20)

## Chemistry:

(1)	(2)
53.32	57.47
42.87	42.53
1.44	
1.14	
0.10	
0.10	<u>.</u>
98.97	100.00
	42.87 1.44 1.14 0.10 0.10

(1) Murchison CM2 meteorite; average electron microprobe analysis; corresponds to  $(Cr_{4.60}V_{0.13}Fe_{0.09}Ni_{0.01})_{\Sigma=4.83}(S_{6.00}P_{0.01})_{\Sigma=6.01}$ . (2)  $Cr_5S_6$ .

**Occurrence**: A low-temperature phase ( $\sim$ 327 °C in the Cr-S system), probably formed from higher temperature Cr<sub>1-x</sub>S exsolved or expelled from a Cr-S-bearing, metal-rich spherule included in forsteritic olivine grains that were probably derived from chondrule fragments.

**Association**: Low-Ni iron ("kamacite"), martensitic iron, schreibersite, Ca-Al-rich glass, forsteritic olivine (crystal 1); tochilinite, serpentine, chromite, eskolaite (crystal 2).

**Distribution**: From the Murchison CM2 meteorite.

Name: For the Murchison meteorite.

Type Material: National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA (USNM 7507).

**References**: (1) Ma, C., J.R. Beckett, and G.R. Rossman (2011) Murchisite, Cr<sub>5</sub>S<sub>6</sub>, a new mineral from the Murchison meteorite. Amer. Mineral., 96, 1905-1908.