

## Oxybismutomicrolite

(Bi<sub>1.33</sub>□<sub>0.67</sub>)<sub>Σ=2</sub>Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>O

**Crystal Data:** Cubic. *Point Group:* 4/m  $\bar{3}$  2/m. As rough octahedral crystals to 1 mm and equant grains to 2 mm.

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* None. *Fracture:* Uneven. *Tenacity:* Brittle. Hardness = ~5 VHN = 551-689, 609 average (100 g load). D(meas.) = 6.98(2) D(calc.) = 7.056

**Optical Properties:** Translucent in thin splinters. *Color:* Black; light gray in reflected light.

*Streak:* Grayish-white.

*Optical Class:* Isotropic. n(calc.) = 2.184

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* Fd $\bar{3}$  m. a = 10.4746(11) Z = 8

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Solnechnaya ('Sunny') pegmatite, Central Transbaikalia, Russia. 3.026 (100), 1.854 (33), 2.621 (32), 1.581 (27), 6.051 (12), 3.160 (10), 1.514 (7)

### Chemistry:

	(1)		(1)
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.45	TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.89
CaO	2.88	SnO <sub>2</sub>	1.77
MnO	0.31	Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	4.50
PbO	0.76	Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	51.08
Bi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	29.81	F	1.17
ThO <sub>2</sub>	0.18	-O = F	0.49
		Total	99.31

(1) Solnechnaya ('Sunny') pegmatite, Central Transbaikalia, Russia; average of 7 electron microprobe analyses supplemented by FTIR spectroscopy; corresponds to (Bi<sub>0.79</sub>Na<sub>0.68</sub>Ca<sub>0.32</sub>Mn<sub>0.03</sub>Pb<sub>0.02</sub>□<sub>0.16</sub>)<sub>Σ=2.00</sub>(Ta<sub>1.42</sub>Ti<sub>0.30</sub>Nb<sub>0.21</sub>Sn<sub>0.07</sub>)<sub>Σ=2.00</sub>O<sub>6.00</sub>(O<sub>0.52</sub>F<sub>0.38</sub>□<sub>0.10</sub>)<sub>Σ=1.00</sub>.

**Mineral Group:** Pyrochlore supergroup (general formula - A<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>X<sub>6</sub>Y); microlite group (B = Ta<sup>5+</sup>).

**Occurrence:** In complex granitic miarolitic pegmatite, enriched in bismuth.

**Association:** Albite, lepidolite, elbaite, Bi-rich fluornatromicrolite, bismutotantalite, stibiotantalite.

**Distribution:** In the Solnechnaya ('Sunny') pegmatite vein, Malkhan pegmatite field, Krasnochikoiy District, Zabaykalskiy Kray, Central Transbaikalia, Russia.

**Name:** For a member of the *microlite* group with prefixes to indicate essential oxygen (*oxy*) in the Y site and essential Bi<sup>3+</sup> (*bismuto*) in the A site.

**Type Material:** A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia (5409/1).

**References:** (1) Kasatkin, A.V., S.N. Britvin, I.S. Peretyazhko, N.V. Chukanov, R. Škoda, and A. A. Agakhanov (2020) Oxybismutomicrolite, a new pyrochlore-supergroup mineral from the Malkhan pegmatite field, Central Transbaikalia, Russia. *Mineral. Mag.*, 84, 444-454.

(2) Atencio, D., M.B. Andrade, A.G. Christy, R. Gieré, and P.M. Kartashov (2010) The pyrochlore supergroup of minerals: nomenclature. *Can. Mineral.*, 48, 673-698.