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# Sr-fresnoite determined from synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction data

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Key indicators: powder synchrotron study; T = 293 K; mean  $\sigma(Si-O) = 0.020$  Å; R factor = 0.052; wR factor = 0.073; data-to-parameter ratio = 1.8.

The fresnoite-type compound Sr<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>), distrontium oxidotitanium disilicate, has been prepared by high-temperature solid-state synthesis. The results of a Rietveld refinement study, based on high-resolution synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction data, show that the title compound crystallizes in the space group P4bm and adopts the structure of other fresnoite-type mineral samples with general formula  $A_2\text{TiO}(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7)$  (A = alkaline earth metal cation). The structure consists of titanosilicate layers composed of corner-sharing SiO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra (forming Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> disilicate units) and TiO<sub>5</sub> square-based pyramids. These layers extend parallel to the ab plane and are stacked along the c axis. Layers of distorted SrO<sub>6</sub> octahedra lie between the titanosilicate layers. The Sr<sup>2+</sup> ion, the SiO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedron and the bridging O atom of the disilicate unit are located on mirror planes whereas the TiO<sub>5</sub> square-based pyramid is located on a fourfold rotation axis.

## **Related literature**

For the crystal chemistry of fresnoites, see: Barbar & Roy (2012); Höche et al. (2002); ICDD (1989). For properties of Sr-fresnoites, see: Park & Navrotsky (2010). Atomic coordinates as starting parameters for the Rietveld refinement (Rietveld, 1969) of the present phases were taken from Ochi (2006); Goldschmidt & Thomassen (1923); Machida et al. (1982); Mitchell et al. (2000). For related strontium titanosilicates, see: Miyajima et al. (2002). For synchrotron data analysis, see: Hammersley (1997); Hammersley et al. (1996).

#### **Experimental**

Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{lll} {\rm Sr_2TiSi_2O_8} & Z=2 \\ M_r=407.31 & {\rm Synchrotron\ radiation}, \\ {\rm Tetragonal}, \, P4bm & \lambda=0.207549\ {\rm \mathring{A}} \\ a=8.3200\ (3)\ {\rm \mathring{A}} & \mu=0.43\ {\rm mm}^{-1} \\ c=5.0239\ (2)\ {\rm \mathring{A}} & T=293\ {\rm K} \\ V=347.77\ (2)\ {\rm \mathring{A}}^3 & {\rm Cylinder}, \, 20\times0.7\ {\rm mm} \end{array}$ 

#### Data collection

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{In-house design diffractometer} & \mbox{Scan method: continuous} \\ \mbox{Specimen mounting: capillary} & 2\theta_{\min} = 0.053^{\circ}, 2\theta_{\max} = 11.915^{\circ}, \\ \mbox{Data collection mode: transmission} & 2\theta_{\rm step} = 0.008^{\circ} \end{array}$ 

#### Refinement

 $\begin{array}{lll} R_{\rm p} = 0.052 & \chi^2 = 31.068 \\ R_{\rm wp} = 0.073 & 1476 \ {\rm data \ points} \\ R_{\rm exp} = 0.031 & 71 \ {\rm parameters} \\ R_{\rm Bragg} = 0.093 & 5 \ {\rm restraints} \end{array}$ 

Data collection: local software; cell refinement: local software; data reduction: local software; program(s) used to solve structure: coordinates taken from a related compound; program(s) used to refine structure: *FULLPROF* (Rodriguez-Carvajal, 2001); molecular graphics: *VESTA* (Momma & Izumi, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: *publCIF* (Westrip, 2010).

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Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: WM2699).

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## supplementary materials

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#### Comment

The title compiound,  $Sr_2TiO(Si_2O_7)$ , is the Sr analogue of the mineral fresnoite,  $Ba_2TiO(Si_2O_7)$ . It is of interest as a potential storage medium for radioactive strontium from nuclear waste (Park & Navrotsky, 2010). An incommensurately modulated structure of Sr-fresnoite has been determined from room-temperature single crystal data and refined in the 5D superspace group P4bm (- $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$ , 1/2;  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$ , 1/2) with  $\alpha$  = 0.3 and with lattice parameters a = 8.312 (2) Å and c = 10.07 (1) Å (Höche  $et\ al.$ , 2002). However, ICDD PDF card 39–228 (ICDD, 1989) states that at room temperature this material is tetragonal with space group P4bm and lattice parameters a = 8.3218 (2) Å and c = 5.0292 (2) Å. The crystal structure of the mineral fresnoite has been decribed in the same space group with lattice parameters a = 8.5159 (6) Å and c = 5.2184 (4) Å. Solid solutions with composition  $Ba_{2x}Ca_xTiO(Si_2O_7)$  (x = 0.0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.8, 1.0; Barbar & Roy, 2012) adopt the same structure. The ordered crystal structure of  $Sr_2TiO(Si_2O_7)$  in space group P4bm and a halved c parameter in comparison with the single crystal study is reported in the present communication.

The mean Si—O and Ti—O distances in the titanosilicate layer of Sr-fresnoite are respectively 1.64 Å and 1.92 Å. The corresponding Si—O and Ti—O distances are 1.64 Å and 1.93 Å in fresnoite. The respective distances in the structures of the solid solutions Ba<sub>2-x</sub>Ca<sub>x</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>) are: 1.59 Å and 2.01 Å (x = 0.2); 1.65 Å and 2.03 Å (x = 0.4); 1.66 Å and 2.02 Å (x = 0.8); 1.71 Å and 1.95 Å (x = 1.0) (Barbar & Roy, 2012). Due to the distortion of the crystal structures by the partial replacement of Ba by Ca these distances are less comparible with those in Sr-fresnoite.

The mean Sr—O distance in the title structure is 2.62 Å, which is comparible with the mean Sr—O distance of 2.61 Å in Sr<sub>4</sub>Ti<sub>5</sub>O<sub>8</sub>(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (Miyajima *et al.*, 2002).

The O—Si—O angles deviate significantly from the ideal tetrahedral angle of 109.5°, indicating a strong distortion due to the presence of the TiO<sub>5</sub> polyhedra in the titanosilicate layer.

Fig. 1 shows the Rietveld difference plot for the present refinement. The crystal structure of  $Sr_2TiO(Si_2O_7)$  is displayed in Fig. 2 and consists of layers of corner-sharing  $SiO_4$  and  $TiO_5$  polyhedra extending parallel to the *ab* plane. These layers are separated along the *c* axis by layers of distorted  $SrO_6$  octahedra.

### **Experimental**

A synthetic sample of Sr-fresnoite was made by melting a stoichiometric mixture of SrCO<sub>3</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub> and SiO<sub>2</sub> to form a glass. This glass was then quenched to 293 K, reground and then heated for 7 days at 1323 K. A small amount of CeO<sub>2</sub> (*NIST* SRM 674*a*) standard was added to this powdered sample to act as an internal standard.

## Refinement

The powdered sample was loaded into a 0.7 mm diameter quartz capillary, prior to synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction data collection using the P02.1 high resolution powder diffraction beamline at the PETRA-III synchrotron. The beam on the sample was 0.8 mm wide and 1.27 mm high. Powder diffraction data were collected using a PerkinElmer XRD 1621

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flat panel image plate detector, which was approximately 1.4 m from the sample. One powder diffraction dataset was collected at 293 K out to approx.  $11.9^{\circ}/2\theta$ , the data collection time was 30 s. Powder diffraction data were converted to a list of  $2\theta$  and intensity using FIT2D (Hammersley *et al.*, 1996, Hammersley, 1997). Powder diffraction data in the range  $1-11.7^{\circ}/2\theta$  were used for the Rietveld refinement. Data below  $1^{\circ}/2\theta$  were excluded due to scatter from the beam stop and as there were no Bragg reflections in this region. Data above  $11.7^{\circ}/2\theta$  were excluded as this corresponded to the edge of the image plate detector where the Bragg peaks were weaker.

The main Bragg reflections of the powder diffraction pattern could be indexed in space group P4bm with similar lattice parameters to those of PDF card 39–228 (ICDD, 1989). The unit cell of the incommensurately modulated structure (Höche *et al.*, 2002) corresponds to a doubled c axis compared to that given on the PDF card. The doubled c axis does not match with some of the low-angle Bragg reflections for the  $Sr_2TiO(Si_2O_7)$  sample used in the present study, therefore this incommensurate structure was not used for Rietveld refinement. Bragg reflections for three impurity phases could also be identified in the powder diffraction data.  $SrTiO_3$  and  $SrSiO_3$  were formed as by-products during preparation.

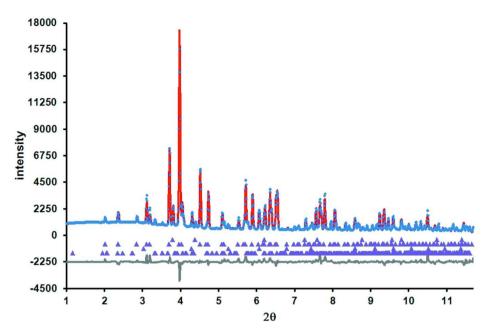
Initial lattice parameters for the three Sr-containing phases were refined using local software. The  $CeO_2$  (*NIST* SRM 674*a*) standard was used to calibrate the sample to detector distance. The  $CeO_2$  lattice parameter was fixed at 5.4111 Å so as to calibrate the wavelength as 0.207549 Å.

The P4bm crystal structure of the mineral fresnoite (Ba<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>); Ochi, 2006) was used as a starting model for the Rietveld refinement (Rietveld, 1969) of the structure of Sr<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>). The crystal structures of SrSiO<sub>3</sub> (Machida *et al.*, 1982), SrTiO<sub>3</sub> (Mitchell *et al.*, 2000) and CeO<sub>2</sub> (Goldschmidt & Thomassen, 1923) were used for the impurity phases in the refinement. Isotropic atomic displacement parameters were used for all phases. For the Sr<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>) phase the Si—O and Ti—O distances in the SiO<sub>4</sub> and TiO<sub>5</sub> polyhedra were soft-constrained to those for Ba<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>) (Ochi, 2006). The  $U_{iso}$  factors for all O sites were constrained to be the same. 81 (1) wt.% of Sr-fresnoite was present in this sample with 4.6 (3) wt.% CeO<sub>2</sub>, 7.0 (6) wt.% SrTiO<sub>3</sub> and 7.4 (8) wt.% of SrSiO<sub>3</sub> present as impurities.

#### **Computing details**

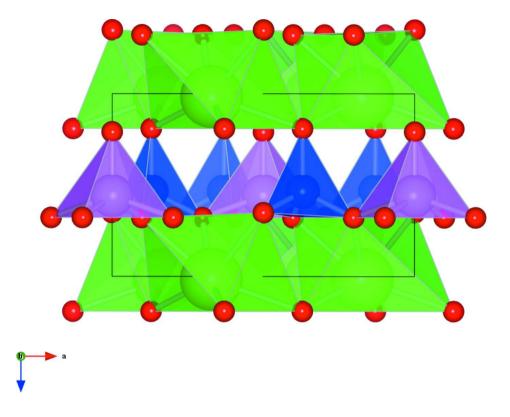
Data collection: local software; cell refinement: local software; data reduction: local software; program(s) used to solve structure: coordinates taken from a related compound; program(s) used to refine structure: FULLPROF (Rodriguez-Carvajal, 2001); molecular graphics: VESTA (Momma & Izumi, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: *publCIF* (Westrip, 2010).

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**Figure 1**Rietveld difference plot for the multi-phase refinement of Sr<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>), CeO<sub>2</sub>, SrTiO<sub>3</sub> and SrSiO<sub>3</sub>. The blue crosses, and red and black lines show respectively the observed, calculated and difference plots. Calculated Bragg reflection positions are indicated by triangles for the four phases.

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## Figure 2

The crystal structure of Sr<sub>2</sub>TiO(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>). Purple polyhedra show TiO<sub>5</sub> units, blue polyhedra show SiO<sub>4</sub> units, green polyhedra show distorted SrO<sub>6</sub> units. Green spheres represent Sr atoms, pink spheres represent Ti atoms, blue spheres represent Si atoms and red spheres represent O atoms.

## Distrontium oxidotitanium disilicate

Crystal data

 $Sr_2TiSi_2O_8$  $M_r = 407.31$ Tetragonal, P4bm Hall symbol: P 4 -2ab a = 8.3200 (3) Å c = 5.0239 (2) Å V = 347.77 (2) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 2

 $D_{\rm x} = 3.890$  (1) Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Data collection

In-house design diffractometer Radiation source: Synchrotron Laue DCM diamond(111) & Si(111) monochromator

Synchrotron radiation,  $\lambda = 0.207549 \text{ Å}$  $\mu = 0.43 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 293 KParticle morphology: powder white cylinder,  $20 \times 0.7$  mm

Specimen preparation: Prepared at 1323 K and

100 kPa

Specimen mounting: capillary Data collection mode: transmission

Scan method: continuous

 $2\theta_{\min} = 0.053^{\circ}, 2\theta_{\max} = 11.915^{\circ}, 2\theta_{\text{step}} = 0.008^{\circ}$ 

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## Refinement

 $R_{\rm p} = 0.052$   $R_{\rm wp} = 0.073$   $R_{\rm exp} = 0.031$  $R_{\rm Bragg} = 0.093$ 

 $R_{\text{Bragg}} = 0.093$  $\chi^2 = 31.068$ 1476 data points Excluded region(s): 0-1 and 11.7-12.0 degrees

Profile function: T-C-H Pseudo-Voigt function

71 parameters 5 restraints

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters  $(\mathring{A}^2)$ 

	x	у	z	$U_{ m iso}$ */ $U_{ m eq}$	
Sr1	0.3282 (2)	0.8282(2)	0.017(2)	0.0070 (8)*	
Ti1	0.00000	0.00000	0.558 (3)	0.007 (2)*	
Si1	0.1305 (6)	0.6305 (6)	0.535(3)	0.019 (2)*	
O1	0.00000	0.50000	0.651 (5)	0.017 (3)*	
O2	0.1292 (15)	0.6292 (15)	0.191(3)	0.017 (3)*	
O3	0.2985 (12)	0.5984 (15)	0.678 (3)	0.017 (3)*	
O4	0.00000	0.00000	0.209(3)	0.017 (3)*	

Geometric parameters (Å, °)						
2.733 (18)	Ti1—O3 <sup>viii</sup>	1.961 (12)				
2.499 (13)	Ti1—O3 <sup>ix</sup>	1.961 (13)				
2.676 (13)	Ti1—O4	1.75 (2)				
2.676 (13)	Si1—O1	1.642 (11)				
2.572 (15)	Si1—O2	1.73 (2)				
2.572 (14)	Si1—O3	1.594 (14)				
1.961 (12)	Si1—O3 <sup>x</sup>	1.594 (15)				
1.961 (13)						
84.6 (9)	$O3^{x}$ — $Ti1^{xii}$ — $O4^{xii}$	107.9 (12)				
144.2 (10)	$O3^{xiv}$ — $Ti1^{xii}$ — $O4^{xii}$	107.9 (12)				
84.6 (8)	O1—Si1—O2	110.3 (16)				
107.9 (12)	O1—Si1—O3 <sup>x</sup>	108.0 (9)				
84.6 (8)	O1—Si1—O3	108.0 (10)				
144.2 (11)	O2—Si1—O3	117.1 (15)				
107.9 (12)	O2—Si1—O3 <sup>x</sup>	117.1 (15)				
84.6 (9)	O3 <sup>x</sup> —Si1—O3	95.2 (11)				
	2.499 (13) 2.676 (13) 2.676 (13) 2.572 (15) 2.572 (14) 1.961 (12) 1.961 (13) 84.6 (9) 144.2 (10) 84.6 (8) 107.9 (12) 84.6 (8) 144.2 (11) 107.9 (12)	2.499 (13)  2.676 (13)  2.676 (13)  2.572 (15)  2.572 (14)  1.961 (12)  1.961 (13)  84.6 (9)  144.2 (10)  84.6 (8)  107.9 (12)  107.9 (12)  84.6 (8)  104.2 (11)  107.9 (12)				

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