The Crystal Structure of Danburite: A Comparison with Anorthite, Albite, and Reedmergnerite

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Abstract

The crystal structure of danburite (CaB₂Si₂O₈; a=8.038 Å; b=8.752 Å; c=7.730 Å; space group Pnam) has been refined to an unweighted residual of R=0.021 using 1076 nonzero structure amplitudes. It consists of a tetrahedral framework of ordered B₂O₇ and Si₂O₇ groups which accommodates Ca in irregular coordination ($\langle \text{Ca}^{\text{IX}}-\text{O}\rangle=2.585$ Å; $\langle \text{Ca}^{\text{VII}}-\text{O}\rangle=2.461$ Å). A 7-fold coordination model appears to be more consistent with structurally similar anorthite, reedmergnerite, and albite as evinced by the linear relationship between the mean Na/Ca-O bond lengths and the mean isotropic temperature factors of Na and Ca in these structures. The mean T-O bond length is 1.474 Å for the B-containing tetrahedron and 1.617 Å for the Si-containing tetrahedron, both of which are somewhat longer than those in reedmergnerite (NaBSi₄O₈).

The trends observed between tetrahedral bond lengths, coordination number and Mulliken bond overlap populations for Si-O-Al and Al-O-Si bonds in anorthite are similar to those observed for Si-O-B and B-O-Si bonds in danburite; shorter bonds with larger overlap populations and smaller coordination numbers are involved in wider tetrahedral angles.

Introduction

The crystal structure of danburite, CaB₂Si₂O₈, was determined by Dunbar and Machatschki (1931) who described it as a framework of corner-sharing Si₂O₇ and B₂O₇ groups with the Ca atoms coordinated by eight oxygens. Because they had been unable to determine the positions of the boron atoms precisely. Johansson (1959) refined the structure using 538 intensities measured by film methods in a partial three-dimensional least-squares synthesis. His refinement confirmed the structure and yielded bond lengths with e.s.d.'s < 0.02Å. Concurrently Bakakin, Kravchenko, and Belov (1959) completed a similar analysis with poorer results. A study of the nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of 11B established that B-Si order persists in danburite up to its decomposition temperature (Brun and Ghose, 1964).

This study was undertaken to determine more precisely the bond lengths and angles of danburite (Phillips, Ribbe, and Gibbs, 1971) for comparison with topologically similar paracelsian (BaAl₂Si₂O₈) and hurlbutite (CaBe₂P₂O₈) and with structurally similar feldspars: anorthite (CaAl₂Si₂O₈) and its hexagonal polymorph; celsian (BaAl₂Si₂O₈); synthetic SrAl₂Si₂O₈; albite (NaAlSi₃O₈); and reedmergnerite (NaBSi₃O₈). This is part of an extensive investiga-

tion of bonding in these structures directed toward a rationalization of their topologies and the steric details and distribution of the tetrahedral atoms (*cf* Ribbe, Phillips, and Gibbs, 1973; Gibbs, Louisnathan, Ribbe, and Phillips, 1973).

Experimental Procedure

A small cleavage fragment $(0.10 \times 0.17 \times 0.23 \text{ mm})$ was taken from a large danburite crystal from San Luis Potosi, Mexico. The specimen is part of the C. A. Michael Collection of Gems and Minerals at V.P.I.S.U. Single crystal photographs were consistent with Bakakin, Kravchenko and Belov's (1959) choice of space group *Pnam*. They state that a statistical test of intensities indicated that danburite is centrosymmetric. Counter diffractometer measurements of 4Θ along the axial zones were used to determine the unit cell dimensions: a = 8.038(3); b = 8.752(5); c = 7.730(3)Å.

Intensity data were collected on a Picker automated four-circle diffractometer, using Nb-filtered Mo radiation and a scintillation counter. A computer program written by C. T. Prewitt was used to correct the intensity data for background and Lorentz-polarization effects and to convert to $|F_{obs}|$. Absorption and extinction corrections were consid-

TABLE 1. Observed and Calculated Structure Factors for Danburite*

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	h & k	F(obs) F(calc)	h k k	F(obs) F(c	alc) h l	F(obs) F(calc	n 4 ×	F(obs) F(calc)	h t k F(obs) F(calc)	h L & F(obs) F(calc.	h & French Frealer	n + + Finbel Finale)
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	1 0 8	13.75 11.44 14.83 15.51	9 1 3	27 84 28	62 h i i 21 i i i	41 66 41 86 1 41 76 41 69		54 24 53 67 54 40 56 17	5 72 8	4 71 26 0 73 46	10 1 0 94 06 93 58 5 11 4 94 22 93 89	# 7 # 119.37 119.10 T 1 7 119.51 118.63	2 10 0 155 93 160 03 2 6 0 156 03 163 36
	3 3 7	15 20 10 90	5 11 2	28_12 28	.88 10 4 4	41 91 40 47	1 8 3		1 5 12 73 2	7 74 48	5 0 0 94_50 93_62	11 6 4 119 96 121 63	7 2 3 156.49 160.54
	9 1 9	15,45 14,96		28 25 28 28 38 28	67 1 1 1 75 1 9 3	42 11 41 43 42 20 41 04		54 69 55 37	2 0 9 73 4 in 3 6 73 6	0 73 27	10 4 2 94 61 93 14	1 5 7 120_31 120_08	8 0 1 157 02 157 03
1	3 0 7	15,63 6,70		28_96 29	79 9 8 6	42_39 39_18	2 0 3	54_95 54_30	8 5 5 73,8	5 72 85 1 74 36	2 6 9 95 00 94 33 6 8 8 95 01 92 72	7 0 J 120 53 116 29 1 1 12 120 73 121 21	6 3 160 62 160 05
	1 1 9	16 21 11 93 16 21 15 66	7 1 14 7 4 6 6 5 7	29 13 27	04 1 5 10	42.47 42.59	4 3 11	55 45 53 77	1 6 2 74 3	5 78 11	# E2 1 95 26 94 85	1 120 96 120 95	0 9 11 161,85 164,24
	1 1 9	16,42 17,47	7 10 1 0 6 4	29:33 23 29:38 29	67 I I II	1 42 64 38 23 42 74 40 12		55 S4 56 73 55 57 59 17	5 3 74 5	0 72 53 2 79 27	1 1 5 95 37 96 66	# 6 5 121 15 122 71 5 0 1 121 28 121 84	1 6 2 163.09 165.06 6 1 0 163.11 166.88
	4 1 11	16,63 12,54 16,68 12,41	7 4 2 5 11	29.47 26 29.48 32	23 7 5 6	43 04 42 96 43 19 40 83	1 1 6 4 7 10	55.83 55.93		8 73 91		5 1 121 34 121 00	3 1 4 163,97 165.87
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1	9 9 5	17 17 21 82	1 7 3	30 40 27	41 1 8 1	43 60 41 81	4 3 6	56 06 55 61 56 22 57 01	* 2 11 75 1	2 75 22	# I 0 96 38 96 94 I & 0 96 95 92 77	# 7 122 56 123 03 4 1 10 122 73 124 20	9 11 3 165,53 166,37 10 3 3 165,83 168,04
1	1 4 14	17,54 16,04 17,55 15,90	# 4 13	30 43 31 30 47 26	24 7 8 1	43 69 41 73	1 1 10 1 9 5 1 4 4	56_61 56_58 57_17 60_58	9 6 7 75 5 8 1 12 75 5	1 76 91 2 78 20	7 9 6 97 34 95 16 10 5 6 97 64 96 47	1 6 7 122 99 125 01 10 1 5 123 16 121 85	6 4 3 167 18 169 25
1		17 61 18 52	7 5	30-56 29	16 1 4 1	43_87 47_42	1 1 11	57 64 59 23	5 B 9 76.1 h 11 2 76.2	9 77 07	7 0 7 97 95 98 72 13 0 2 98 06 98 35	10 1 123 51 124 95	3 B 8 169,29 170.55
1	10 1 3	17 76 21 16 17 78 15 59	11 4	30 84 29 30 85 30	27 1 11 1	43 95 41 61	6 7 9	57 98 58 02 58 02 60 51	8 2 1 76.6 8 0 10 76.6	4 77 75 6 78 19	10 1 98 43 97 65 0 4 1 99 19 100 30	1 123 89 121 53 7 124 04 123 88	4 3 0 171.63 173.77 2 5 3 172.71 172.33
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1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3 3 4	18,58 21,42 18,61 17.77	4 4 7 1 9 4 5 3 4	31 92 30	77 10 2 2	45 50 42 38 45 52 46 30	9 H 2 1 10 6	59 82 59 76	17 1 0 79 2	3 60 12 3 82:18	101 78 101 92	6 5 6 125.58 126.68	4 0 1 178,05 176,72
1	2 11 6	19 07 21 41	0 10 6	32 05 35 32 16 31	83 5 11 3 01 1 10 8	45.74 45.40 45.80 43.12		59 94 60 14 60 36 59 93	3 1 13 79 4 8 1 79 7	7 61 11 6 77 81	# #0 1 101 97 102 32 # 0 2 102 12 105 35	1 2 12 126.10 127.00 € € ₩ 126.17 125.70	4 1 1 179.45 177.55 0 4 2 162.99 189.18
1	7 0 8	19 26 12 84 19 47 20 61	9 4 2 3 7 6	32 22 31 32 29 32	30 1 11 1 53 9 8 4	45 B8 46 73 45 99 44 89	1 9 3 9 3 8	60 65 59 26 60 96 62 52	5 4 5 79 8 4 2 3 79 8	1 79 52 3 75 67	2 6 11 102 47 102 83 2 0 8 102 54 96 80	9 1 10 127.09 130.89 1 1 10 127.46 127.44	1 7 4 183.26 181.33
1 1 3 1 3 1 3 4 1 3 4 1 3 4 1 3 4 1 3 5 2 1 3 1 2 1 3 2 3 2	4 1 9	19 52 18,83	8 9 1	32 41 32	56 0 B 4 60 13 3 2 48 12 5 6	46 02 45 66 46 03 46 72 46 07 47 32	8 1 11 7 7 4	61 13 63 05	3 3 10 81.5	1 62 18	5 1 1 102 98 99 23	8 S 1 127,48 127,15 1 6 13 127,68 129,13	1 3 1 184 47 185,79
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1	11 4 3 6 A 4	19 99 19 13 20 04 21 11	5 0 11	33 52 31	01	46 83 46 12	1 4 6	62 02 62 39	2 1 17 82 9	7 80 92	4 4 103 90 105 86	2 1 6 129/07 130/18	B 2 B 389.83 190.94
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4 0 13 22.83 21.05 12 4 A 37.57 33.89 A 8 2 7.02.2 51.21 7 1 11 55.97 63.87 1 1 14 65.45 88.42 8 7 1 10.01 10.01 10.09 10 1 15.89 11.97 11.01 11	8 1 13	22 62 21 83	3 7 A		28 7 3 9	50 02 51 05	0 5 9	65 74 67 12	0 1 11 86 1	82 29	§ £ 1 109_92 112_73	1 1 13 135 29 137,89	0 8 4 224 26 226 34
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2		23 81 21 14	8 12 3 11 4 5	38 25 37 38 30 38	77 1 11 5 54 8 8 6	50_74 50_95 50_74 49_15	12 0 5	67 63 67 65 67 71 66 03	1 1 87.2	9 85 16 5 84 28	10 0 5 112.15 109.82 6 1 112.48 109.92	1 139,36 139,33 1 139,67 140,63	1 1 3 248 40 250 89 1 3 2 248 94 244 02
0 0 24.56 24.67 23.96 0 1.87 33.875 26.680 0 1.87 23.860 2	2 A A	23 90 22 73 23 96 22 35	1 12 2 1 12 3	38 44 36 38 45 36	32 6 1 3 12 9 0 6	50 96 51 25 50 99 51 44	I 8 9	68 34 70 19 68 70 68 81	4 10 7 87.6 2 4 4 87.8	7 88 87 5 82 96		1 # 4 140 05 139 81	1 2 1 252 22 250 04 0 8 2 252 57 259 14
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6 4 10 25-23 73-44 10 7 1 75-38 40,93 5 1 11 52,26 51,79 1 8 7 70,11 70,28 5 1 89,29 89,01 5 8 1 115,20 117,39 8 0 146,08 148,27 0 1 2 775 777.28 5 1 8 59,29 89,01 5 8 1 115,20 117,39 8 0 146,10 146		25_11 23_85	10 1 4	39 09 38	09 1 6 1	51 94 51 31	6 3 2	69 98 67 35		9 86 57	2 # 1 114-96 111 47	10 1 145 47 145 50	0 5 5 265.76 276.08
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# # 26.51 88.48 11 4 4 40.18 19.31 7 4 7 52.77 51.11 13 1 2 7 0.83 70.78 1 5 2 90.35 69.01 # 8 0 115.08 117.69 10 0 0 1 19.95 146.50 2 1 2 50.76 10.60 1 1 1 4 0.52 10.85 1 1 4 0.52 10.85 1 1 4 0.52 10.85 1 1 1 4 0.52 10.85 1 1 1 4 0.52 10.85 1 1 1 4 0.52 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 9 8	26_51 26,18	11 4 6	40_18 39	31 7 6 7	52 71 51 91 52 73 51 11	A 4 7	70.44 70.40 70.83 70.78	0 6 12 90.27 1 5 2 90.34	89_03	# 12 115.88 113.99 # 9 0 116.08 117.63 3 # 7 116.26 114.83	7 3 1 148 96 149 14 10 0 9 149 93 148 59 2 3 8 150 00 150 85	4 1 0 285 77 292 85 2 1 2 290 78 304 07
0 4 7 26.56 22.49 8 7 40.56 37.67 7 31 1 32.99 52.42 4 4 7 1.00 71.55 3 11 50.00 51.12 3 1 11.80 1 11.80 3 8 10.00 10.00 1 1 20.00 10.00 1 20.	0 4 9	26 66 22 49 26 93 22 71	1 9 7	40 34 37 40 35 39	67 3 21 1	52 99 52 42 53 09 52 65	0 1 5	71 01 71 55 71 15 68 05	1 3 2 91.41	91_12 95_34	1 N 1 116,38 115 83 1 7 12 116 42 117 86	4 0 5 150 03 150 85 4 0 5 150 39 151 83 1 1 150 83 155 16	1 298 07 309 96 0 4 299 19 308 70 2 2 1 299 98 307 97
1 h 7 26.96 24.57 7 1 16 40.39 38.78 4 8 2 53.71 55.06 8 11 7 7 1.44 70.83 10 0 1 91.93 92.05 8 7 815.66 114.30 10 3 151.61 4 8 1 2 50.05.75 10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9 1 5	26 97 29 94 26 97 23 13	# H I	40_41 38 40_58 42	66 6 9 7	53_21 52_27 53_24 53_51	9 4 2	71 46 70 46	10 0 6 91,95	91 15	5 7 1 116.66 116.20 1 10 1 116.20 116.20	1 4 4 151 58 149 26	
9 1 5 26.97 29.94 8 8 2 0.41 38.66 6 7 7 53.21 52.27 3 8 2 71.66 70.66 10 0 6 91.95 91.15 5 7 116.66 16.20 1 4 131.58 169.26 1 5 0 305.28 307.09 11 6 9 7 20.13 1 8 110 40.55 97 20.13 1 8 110 40.55 97 20.13 1 8 110 40.55 97 20.13 1 10 115.00 116.60 1 8 152.17 152.44 1 2 7 31.57 39.22 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		27 09 24 56 27 22 28 15	10 B 1 7 A 5 8 A 5	40 82 39 40 89 39 40 90 40	71 4 1 3	53-27 53 31 53 30 54 94	0 1 1 4 8 0	71,49 71.33 72,20 69,59	h 1 11 93.02	92.23	11 4 117 10 117 16 2 0 10 117 15 118 01	0 1 1 152 49 150 76 3 2 1 152 51 158 95	315 97 329 22 317 29 322 01 3 319 97 334 41
23 41 27 41 27 41 27 41 31 43 51 86 2 1 10 72 31 71 14 18 4 93 07 93 14 3 18 2 117 51 119 67 2 1 152 98 150 58 1 6 329 87 334 35	1 1 11	27,40 28,33	1 2 4	41_27 41_		53 43 51 84	2 1 10	72 31 71 14	10 4 8 93 07	93.14	3 15 2 117 51 119 67	152 /7 154 40 152 98 150 58 151 18 151 24	6 6 324 29 323 48 6 6 329 87 334 35
4 II 0 27-55 28-3.7 2 6 4 41.28 19.42 9 3 1 51.47 53.55 5 9 10 72.38 74.36 3 7 8 9 9.22 94.21 6 1 117.90 119.40 6 4 9 151.28 117.91 116.71 0 7 1 151.42 156.25 0 2 1 2 1 156.25 0 1 1 17.91 116.71 0 7 1 151.42 156.25 0 1 2 1 156.25 0 1 1 17.91 116.71 0 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 6 5	27 61 30 03	4 0 7	47 3A 38	1 6 6	53,90 52 39 53,92 51 09	6	72 60 73 62	4 1 10 93,50	95 08 93 43	J # 1 117,91 116,71	0 7 1 153-42 156-25 1 1 11 154-24 154-75	0 1 3 352.46 351.98

^{*} The k and l columns are not in their usual order.

ered unnecessary. An anisotropic least-squares refinement was calculated with 1076 structure amplitudes, ($|F_{obs}| > 4\sigma$), using the program by Busing, Martin, and Levy (1962). The $|F_{obs}|$ were weighted according to the scheme proposed by Hanson (1965) and the variation of $\langle w\Delta F^2 \rangle$ over the entire range of $|F_{obs}|$ was minimized as suggested by Cruickshank (1965). The values of $|F_{obs}|$ and F_{calc} are given in Table 1. Atomic scattering factors for neutral atoms were taken from Cromer and Waber (1965). The positional parameters and temperature factors (Table 2), interatomic distances and angles (Table 3), and thermal ellipsoid data (Table 4) were obtained from the final cycle of the anisotropic refinement which yielded an unweighted residual of R=0.021.

Description of the Structure

The asymmetric unit of danburite contains two tetrahedrally coordinated (T) cations (B and Si), one calcium, and five oxygen atoms. Of the latter O(1), O(2), and O(3) are bonded to both Si and B, whereas O(4) and O(5) are the bridging oxygens of the Si_2O_7 and B_2O_7 groups, respectively. The mirror planes normal to c at heights of 0.25 and 0.75 contain the calcium atoms and the bridging oxygens, O(4) and O(5). The structure can be thought of as a continuous framework of alternating

Table 2. Positional Parameters and Temperature Factors for Danburite*

Atom		$B(Å^2)$				
TTC OIII	X		У	Z	ters z	
Ca	0.385	4(1)	0.0765(1)	1/4		0.42(1)
T1	.2590	0(1)	.4192(1)	.4201	(1)	.31(1)
T2	.0533	3(1)	.1924(1)	~.0558		.25(1)
01	.1930	0(1)	.0680(1)	0032	(1)	.56(1)
02	.1263	3(1)	.3650(1)	~.0433	(1)	.49(1)
03	.3998	3(1)	.3135(1)	.0781	(1)	.47(1)
04	.5136	5(1)	.6636(1)	1/4		.60(2)
05	.1838	3(1)	.4282(1)	1/4		.54(2)
Atom	Ani	104)				
A C O III	β_{11}	β ₂₂	β33	β_{12}	β13	β23
Ca	18(1)	12(1	18(1)	-1(1)	0	0
T1	12(1)	9(1	16(1)	0(1)	0(1)	0(1)
T2	10(1)	7(1	11(1)	0(1)	0(1)	-1(1)
Ol	23(1)	13(1	29(1)	4(1)	5(1)	-4(1)
02	21(1)	12(1	22(1)	-3(1)	-7(1)	-1(1)
03	18(1)	16(1	19(1)	2(1)	3(1)	2(1)
04	28(1)	23(1	14(1)	5(1)	0	0
05	18(1)	26(1	14(1)	3(1)	0	0

^{*} Estimated standard errors are in parentheses and refer to the last decimal place.

TABLE 3. Interatomic Distances and Angles and Bond Overlap Populations (n) in Danburite*

B-O dist	ances ((Å)	n(B-0)		0-0 dist	ances (Å)	0-B-0	angles	(°)
T1-01	1.479		0.534		01-02	2.321		102.5	
02	1.498		0.513		01-03	2.419		110.7	
03	1.461		0.545		02-03	2.429		110.4	
05	1.456		0.539		02-05	2.372		106.9	
tiean	1.474				03-05	2.406		111.2	
Si-O dis	tances	(Å)	n(Si-O)	0-0 dist	ances (Å)	O-Si-	-O angles	(°)
T2-01	1.617		0.507		01-02	2.672		111.1	
02	1.624		0.549		01-03	2.650		110.4	
03	1.611		0.492		01-04	2.664		111.1	
04	1.614		0.514		02-03	2.574		105.4	
ilean	1.617				02-04	2.636		109.0	
					0304	2.638		109.7	
C	a O dis	tances	(Å)	[Nult	.1	T-0-T ang	les (°)		
	Ca-01	2.496		[2]		T1-01-T2	132.4		
	02	2.452		[2]		T1-02-T2	126.3		
	03	2.467		[2]		T1-03-T2	128.1		
	05	2.399		[1]		T2-04-T2	136.8		
	02	3.020		[2]		T1-05-T1	130.6		

^{*} Estimated standard errors for all distances are 0.001Å and all angles 0.1°.

 B_2O_7 and Si_2O_7 groups with the Ca atoms in either 9-fold coordination ($\langle Ca-O \rangle = 2.585$ Å) or 7-fold coordination ($\langle Ca-O \rangle = 2.461$ Å). The 7-fold coordination model appears to be more consistent with structurally similar anorthite, reedmergnerite, and albite as evinced by the strong correlation between

TABLE 4. Thermal Ellipsoid Data for Danburite*

Atom	Ellipsoid axis	R.M.S. displacement (Å)	Angles to X	crystal axes	(degrees)
Са	1	0.068(1)	82(3)	8(3)	90
	1. 2 3	.073(1)	90	90	180
	3	.077(1)	8(3)	98(3)	90
T1	1 2 3	.060(3)	114(39)	24(39)	91(14)
	2	.063(3)	155(38)	114(39)	81(19)
	3	.069(3)	82(18)	85(14)	9(19)
T2	1	.052(1)	89(6)	19(7)	71(7)
	2	.057(1)	48(23)	76(13)	135(19)
	1 2 3	.060(1)	41(21)	103(7)	51(19)
01	1 2 3	.066(2)	112(5)	23(4)	82(4)
	2	.082(2)	137(4)	101(5)	131(4)
	3	.102(2)	125(3)	110(2)	42(3)
02	1	.062(2)	56(4)	46(7)	63(5)
	1 2 3	.075(2)	67(5)	135(7)	54(5)
	3	.094(2)	43(3)	98(3)	132(3)
03	1	.070(2)	42(11)	101(17)	130(18)
	2	.074(2)	71(17)	138(9)	54(17)
	1 2 3	.086(2)	54(5)	50(6)	61(5)
04	1 2 3	.066(3)	90	90	0
	2	.086(2)	46(5)	136(5)	90
	3	.104(2)	44(5)	46(5)	90
05	1	.066(3)	90	90	0
	1 2 3	.076(2)	167(4)	77(4)	90
	3	.102(2)	77(4)	13(4)	90

^{*} Estimated standard errors are in parentheses and refer to the last decimal place.

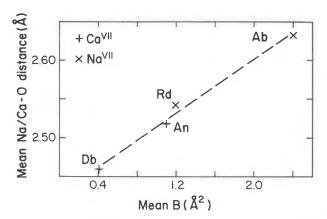


Fig. 1. A plot of mean Ca-O distances for danburite (Db) and anorthite (An), and mean Na-O distances for reedmergnerite (Rd) and albite (Ab) versus the mean isotropic temperature factors for 7-coordinated Ca and Na. Data for Ab and An from Wainwright and Starkey (1968, 1971) and for Rd from Appleman and Clark (1965).

the mean Na/Ca-O bonds lengths and the mean isotropic temperature factors of the Na and Ca atoms (see Fig. 1).

Figure 2 represents a portion of the structure viewed down c, showing the 4- and 8-membered rings formed by the alternating B- and Si-containing tetrahedra. Similarities between danburite and feld-spar structures were first noted by W. L. Bragg (Taylor, 1933). Both contain double-crankshaft chains (Figure 3A) which consist of 4-membered rings of tetrahedra (Fig. 3B). Within these rings,

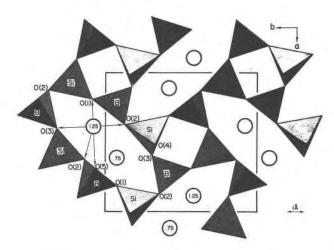


FIG. 2. A portion of the danburite structure viewed down [001] showing the 4- and 8-membered rings formed by the alternating B- and Si-containing tetrahedra. Mirror planes pass through O(4), O(5) and the Ca atoms (open circles) parallel to (001).

two adjacent tetrahedra have apical oxygen atoms that point up (U) and two that point down (D). Figure 3C is a simplified representation of one of these rings in which the oxygen atoms are omitted and the U-D notation of Smith and Rinaldi (1962) is used to describe the orientation of the tetrahedra.

In both feldspar and danburite the 4-membered rings are tilted with respect to the chain axis, which is parallel to a in feldspar and c in danburite. In the feldspar structure there is also a rotation of successive rings within each chain, although in danburite, which has mirror symmetry perpendicular to the chain axes, no such rotation is possible.

Another point of interest is the cation distribution within a given chain. In danburite, the silicon and boron tetrahedra within a 4-membered ring are always linked to like tetrahedra in mirror-related rings directly above and below in the chain, forming Si-O-Si and B-O-B linkages. Similar linkages are not found in the feldspars, even in anorthite and celsian, which have the same T^{3+} : T^{4+} ratio as danburite. In anorthite, like danburite, there is alternation of T^{3+} and T^{4+} atoms within the layer of 4- and 8-membered rings (Figs. 3D, 3E); however, unlike danburite, there is also a perfect alternation between tetrahedra of subsequent rings within a chain. Thus Al-O-Al and Si-O-Si linkages are not present in anorthite. Anorthite-like alternation of unlike tetrahedral cations is also found in the chains of paracelsian (BaAl₂ Si₂O₈; Louisnathan, Gibbs, and Craig, in preparation), and hurlbutite (CaBe₂P₂O₈; Lindbloom, Gibbs, and Ribbe, in preparation), even though these structures are topologically similar to danburite (Fig.

Smith and Rinaldi (1962) and Smith (1968) described a number of possible framework structures based on the cross-linking of double-crankshaft chains composed of UUDD 4-membered rings. In the feldspar structure (Fig. 3D) each chain is rotated approximately 180° from the neighboring chains, whereas in danburite (Fig. 3E) successive chains are alternately rotated clockwise and counter-clockwise by approximately 90°. In both anorthite and danburite the 8-membered elliptical rings, which result from cross-linking of the double-crankshaft chains, are characterized by alternation of T^{3+} and T^{4+} tetrahedral cations. In anorthite there are two types of 8-membered rings, UUUUDDDD (elongate parallel to c^*) and UUDUDDUD (elongate parallel to b^*). In danburite only one sequence occurs (UUDUD DUD).

The final structural comparisons concern the stacking of the "layers" shown in Figures 3D and 3E to form the respective feldspar- and danburite-type frameworks. In feldspars the 8-membered rings are underlain by rings of the different sequence and different elongation: UUUUDDDD rings alternate with UUDUDDUD rings along a. In danburite there is only one type of 8-membered ring present; and because there are mirror planes perpendicular to the stacking axis, both sequence and elongation are the same for the rings in successive layers.

Discussion of Bonding in Danburite and Related Compounds

In a study of anorthite Megaw, Kempster, and Radoslovich (1962) were first to recognize the correlation between the tetrahedral (T-O) distances and the coordination number of oxygens involved in the T-O bonds. Fleet, Chandrasekhar, and Megaw (1966) found that in bytownite the Na/Ca-O and the T-O distances are also inversely correlated. To take into account both the coordination number of oxygen, CN(O), and the distances to the bonded nontetrahedral cations, Phillips, Ribbe, and Gibbs (1972, 1973) introduced the parameter $\Sigma[1/(\text{Ca-O})^2]$, where Ca-O represents the Ca-oxygen bond length. Since the oxygens in anorthite are bonded to either 0, 1 or 2 calcium atoms, $\Sigma[1/(Ca-O)^2]$ will have the values of zero, $1/(\text{Ca-O})^2$ or $\sum_{i=1}^{n} [1/(\text{Ca}_i-\text{O})^2]$, respectively. As expected, this parameter is strongly

spectively. As expected, this parameter is strongly correlated with individual tetrahedral bond lengths, giving correlation coefficients of 0.84 for Al-O and 0.90 for Si-O distances. Moreover, when the T-O-T angles (linearized by the inverse cosine function, $-1/\cos(T$ -O-T)) were included in multiple linear regression analyses, the correlation coefficients increased to 0.89 and 0.94, respectively (Ribbe *et al*, 1973).

The trends observed between bond lengths and coordination number can also be rationalized in terms of overlap integrals, S, and Mulliken bond overlap populations, n. Interrelationships of bond lengths, coordination number, and overlap integrals for carbon containing compounds have been established by Coulson (1951) and are presented in Figure 4a. The largest overlap integral is calculated for 2-coordinated bonded carbon (\mathfrak{S} hybridization) which indicates that bonds involving 2-coordinated atoms should be shorter than those involving 3-coordinated ($\mathfrak{S}p^2$ hybridization) or 4-coordinated

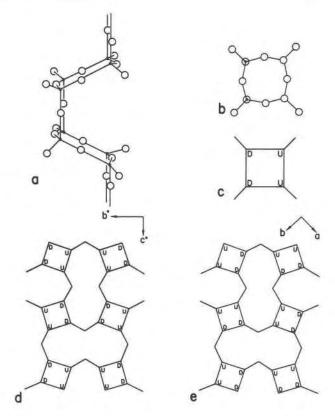
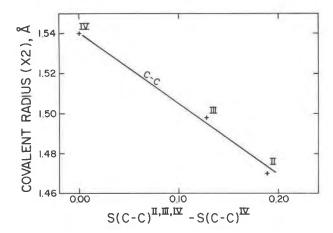


Fig. 3. Schematic representations of portions of the tetrahedral framework: (a) "Jacob's ladder" chain common to danburite and the feldspars (after Taylor, 1933); (b) 4-fold tetrahedral ring, and (c) its symbolic representation (after Smith and Rinaldi, 1962). "U" indicates that the tetrahedron points upward and "D" downward. (d) The arrangement of 4-fold rings of tetrahedra in anorthite resulting in the two types of 8-membered rings (UUUUDDDD elongate parallel to c^* and UUDUDDUD elongate parallel to b^*). (e) Similar arrangement in danburite resulting in only one type of 8-membered ring (UUDUDDUD).

bonded carbon (sp^3 hybridization). Similar relationships are observed in anorthite, $CaAl_2Si_2O_8$ (Fig. 4b), where shorter Al-O \rightarrow Si and Si-O \rightarrow Al bonds have larger Mulliken bond-overlap populations on the average as well as smaller values of CN(O). It is not surprising that in structurally similar danburite, $CaB_2Si_2O_8$, the same trends are found for Si-O \rightarrow B and B-O \rightarrow Si linkages (Fig. 4b).

In a study of Mulliken bond-overlap populations in feldspar structures, Gibbs $et\ al\ (1973)$ found that n(T-O) values calculated assuming constant T-O distances correlate with observed T-O bond lengths and O-T-O and T-O-T angles for Al- and Si-containing tetrahedra. The shorter T-O bonds had larger overlap populations and were involved with wider O-T-O and T-O-T angles. They also calcu-



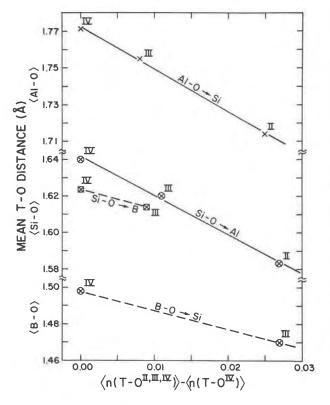


FIG. 4. (a) The differences in the overlap integrals, S, for a C-C bond involving a 4-coordinated carbon atom and those involving 4-, 3- and 2-coordinated carbon atoms versus C-C bond length. (b) The differences in the mean Mulliken bond overlap populations for T-O bonds involving a 4-coordinated oxygen atom and those involving 4-, 3-, and 2-coordinated oxygen atoms plotted against mean T-O distance in Å. Anorthite data are connected by solid lines, danburite by dashed lines. Roman numerals indicate coordination number.

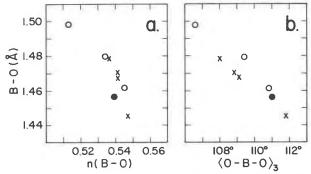


Fig. 5. Individual B-O bond lengths versus n(B-O) and $(O-B-O)_3$ for danburite $(B-O\rightarrow Si, open circles; B-O\rightarrow B, filled circles)$ and for reedmergnerite $(B-O\rightarrow Si, X's)$.

lated n(T-O) for the B-tetrahedron in reedmergnerite, NaBSi₃O₈, but correlations with observed bond lengths and angles were not attempted at that time because of the paucity of data. These are plotted here in Figures 5a and 5b with similar data for the B-tetrahedron in danburite. The correlations of observed B-O distances with n(B-O) and the average O-B-O angle involving a common B-O bond, $\langle O-B-O \rangle_3$, are well developed in the expected manner with shorter bonds involving larger overlap populations and wider tetrahedral angles.

Ribbe et al (1973) have demonstrated the importance of the effect of CN(O) on bond lengths in T-O-T linkages in the feldspars: T-O bonds to oxygens of different coordination numbers should be treated as separate populations. Correlations of B-O with B-O-Si angle for CN(O) = 4, 3, and 2 in danburite and reedmergnerite were found to be indeterminate, because there are only two 4-coordinated, four 3-coordinated, and one 2-coordinated oxygen atoms in these structures.

Inasmuch as danburite will be included as part of an extensive investigation of the crystal chemistry and bonding in $MT_2^{8+}T_2^{4+}O_8$ and $MT_2^{2+}T_2^{5+}O_8$ compounds currently underway in our laboratory and in the Institut für Mineralogie at Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität in Münster, Germany, and the Istituto di Mineralogia e Geochimica at the University in Torino, Italy, further discussion of the structure will be deferred to a future report.

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