

The crystal structure of pligionite, $\text{Pb}_5\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{17}$, the second member in the homologous series $\text{Pb}_{3+2n}\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{15+2n}$

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Dedicated to Prof. M. J. Buerger on the occasion of his 70th birthday

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Auszug

Pligionit $\text{Pb}_5\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{17}$ hat die Raumgruppe $C2/c$, die Gitterkonstanten $a = 13,4857(8)$, $b = 11,8656(4)$, $c = 19,9834(7)\text{\AA}$, $\beta = 107,168(4)^\circ$; $Z = 4$, $D_{\text{gem}} = 5,54 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $D_x = 5,55 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$. Das Mineral gehört zur Serie der Homologen $\text{Pb}_{3+2n}\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{15+2n}$, die im Gegensatz zu anderen Schwefelantimoniden tafeligen Habitus aufweisen. Die Struktur wurde mittels des Verfahrens der symbolischen Addition bestimmt und nach der Methode der kleinsten Quadrate bis zu $R = 18,2\%$ für 2302 beobachtbare Interferenzen verfeinert. Die asymmetrische Einheit enthält 16 Atome. Zwei Pb-Atome werden von sechs bzw. sieben S-Atomen in oktaeder-ähnlichen Koordinationen umgeben; ein drittes Pb-Atom hat eine unregelmäßige Umgebung aus acht S-Atomen. Drei der vier symmetrie-unabhängigen Sb-Atome sind von S-Atomen tetragonal-pyramidal, das vierte trigonal-pyramidal umgeben. Von den neun S-Atomen haben vier eine tetragonal-pyramidale Umgebung, drei eine verzerrt-tetraedrische und zwei eine dreizählige Koordination.

Die Pligionit-Struktur setzt sich aus Schichten einer PbS-ähnlichen Struktur zusammen, die sich durch die zweizählige b -Achse wiederholen, in der c -Richtung abwechselnd nach $(1\bar{1}2)$ und (112) gestapelt sind und sich unbegrenzt längs $[\bar{1}10]$ bzw. $[110]$ erstrecken. Es wird angenommen, daß die Strukturen der anderen Mitglieder der Serie ähnliche Schichten aufweisen, die sich durch die Breite der PbS-ähnlichen Bereiche unterscheiden.

Abstract

Pligionite, $\text{Pb}_5\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{17}$, is monoclinic, space group $C2/c$, with $a = 13.4857(8)$, $b = 11.8656(4)$, $c = 19.9834(7)\text{\AA}$, $\beta = 107.168(4)^\circ$, $\rho_{\text{meas}} = 5.54 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ and $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 5.55 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ for $Z = 4$. The mineral is the second member of an homologous series $\text{Pb}_{3+2n}\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{15+2n}$ which differ from other lead sulfantimonides in having tabular rather than acicular habits. Intensity data were recorded with an equi-inclination counter diffractometer. The structure was solved with the

symbolic addition procedure and refined, by least-squares techniques, to $R = 18.2\%$ for 2302 observable reflections. The asymmetric unit contains 16 atoms. Two Pb atoms are coordinated by six and seven S atoms, respectively, in octahedral-like configuration; a third Pb atom has an irregular eightfold coordination which may be described either as a square antiprism, or as a trigonal prism with neighbors along two face normals. Three of four independent Sb atoms have square pyramidal coordination; a fourth forms a trigonal pyramidal group. Of nine independent sulfur atoms, four have square pyramidal coordination, three have distorted tetrahedral coordination and two have threefold coordination. The structure is composed of slabs of PbS-like structure which are repeated by b . Stacks of such slabs exist parallel to (112) and $(\bar{1}\bar{1}2)$ alternately along c and extend indefinitely along $[\bar{1}10]$ and $[110]$ respectively. It is postulated that structures of other members in the homologous series contain similar slabs which differ in the width of the PbS-like unit.

Introduction

At least eighteen well-established minerals have been discovered in the system $\text{PbS}-\text{Sb}_2\text{S}_3$. Interestingly, with but few exceptions, they bear little similarity in either composition or crystallography to an equally complex series of lead arsenosulfides (NOWACKI, 1969; WUENSCH, 1972) even though As and Sb sulfides are often isostructural. The distinct behaviors of the lead sulfosalts undoubtedly arises from the rather different sizes of the As and Sb coordination polyhedra relative to the dimensions of the Pb-S groups. No structure had been completely determined for any lead-antimony sulfosalt when the present study was begun. A substructure for boulangerite, $\text{Pb}_5\text{Sb}_4\text{S}_{11}$, however, had been proposed by BORN and HELLNER (1960). A substructure determination for zinkenite, $\text{Pb}_6\text{Sb}_{14}\text{S}_{27}$, was subsequently reported by TAKEDA and HORIUCHI (1971).

Most of the Pb-Sb sulfosalts have been found to display one lattice constant either equal to 4 Å or, more commonly, double this value. On the basis of the structures which have been determined for boulangerite, zinkenite and a number of other antimony and bismuth sulfosalts, this lattice constant appears to correspond to the periodicity of chains of SbS_5 square pyramids sharing edges. The minerals of the plagionite group, Table 1, do not display this 4 Å periodicity. The habit of these minerals also differs from that of other lead sulfantimonides: rather than being acicular, with an axis of elongation parallel to the 4 Å translation, they are tabular to stoutly prismatic in habit. The four members of the plagionite group constitute an apparent homologous series whose compositions may be expressed $\text{Pb}_{3+2n}\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{15+2n}$ (with $n = 0$ to 3). The probable space group for all four phases is $C2/c$.

Table 1. *The plagionite group*

		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	β	Reference
Fülöppite	Pb ₃ Sb ₈ S ₁₅	13.39 Å	11.69 Å	16.91 Å	94.68°	NUFFIELD, 1946
Plagionite	Pb ₅ Sb ₈ S ₁₇	13.4857	11.8656	19.9834	107.168	Present work
Heteromorphite	Pb ₇ Sb ₈ S ₁₉	13.60	11.93	21.22	90.83	JAMBOR, 1969
Semseyite	Pb ₉ Sb ₈ S ₂₁	13.603	11.936	24.453	106.05	KOHATSU, 1973

Table 1 shows that two lattice constants remain essentially invariant throughout the series, while the third increases uniformly with *n*. With the possible exception of fülöppite, all members of the series display a {112} cleavage of increasing ease as *n* increases.

The present investigation of the crystal structure of plagionite was undertaken to determine the structural relationship among members of this series. A preliminary account of the structure has been previously presented (CHO and WUENSCH, 1970).

X-ray examination

Crystals of plagionite from Wolfsberg, Harz, Germany were obtained from the Harvard Collection (Catalogue No. 11391). Crystal fragments were ground into spheres of small radius in an attempt to minimize absorption effects ($\mu_l = 1197 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ for $\text{CuK}\alpha$). The specimen selected for study had a radius of $0.054 \pm 0.002 \text{ mm}$ ($\mu_r = 6.51$ for $\text{CuK}\alpha$). Precession and Weissenberg photographs indicated that the mineral was monoclinic. Systematic absences were observed for *hkl* reflections with $h + k \neq 2n$ and *h0l* reflections with $l \neq 2n$. The diffraction symbol is thus $2/m C/c$ which permits *Cc* and *C2/c* as possible space groups. The centrosymmetric space group was chosen as the correct possibility on the basis of crystal morphology (PALACHE *et al.*, 1944). This choice was subsequently confirmed by statistical tests performed on the set of diffracted intensities (Table 3).

Precise lattice constants were determined from back-reflection Weissenberg photographs (BUERGER, 1937). A least-squares extrapolation based upon 108 *okl* and 36 *h0l* reflections, in which parameters characterizing systematic errors due to film shrinkage, sample eccentricity and absorption were refined, was performed with the program LCLSQ3 (BURNHAM, 1962). The lattice constants obtained (Table 2), are in excellent agreement with values reported by NUFFIELD and PEACOCK (1945) and WOLFE (in PALACHE *et al.*, 1944) as well as early morphological data (PALACHE *et al.*, 1944). The lattice constants

Table 2. *Lattice constants of plagionite*

	NUFFIELD and PEACOCK (1945)*	WOLFE (in PALACHE <i>et al.</i> , 1944)*	Present work
<i>a</i>	13.48 Å	13.4 Å	13.4857(8) Å
<i>b</i>	11.83	11.9	11.8656(4)
<i>c</i>	19.98	19.80	19.9834(7)
β	107.18°	107.22°	107.168(4)°

* Converted to Ångstroms from kx units.

Table 3. *Statistical distribution of normalized structure factors*

	Experimental	Theoretical	
		Centric	Acentric
$\langle E \rangle$	0.853	0.798	0.886
$\langle E^2 \rangle$	0.999	1.000	1.000
$\langle E^2 - 1 \rangle$	0.874	0.968	0.736
$ E > 1.0$	31.54%	32.00%	37.00%
$ E > 2.0$	3.95%	5.00%	1.80%
$ E > 3.0$	0.17%	0.30%	0.01%

obtained in the present work provide, for $Z = 4$, $\rho_{\text{cal}} = 5.55 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$. The measured density for material from the same locality is 5.54 g cm^{-3} (NUFFIELD and PEACOCK, 1945) while that reported for crystals from Oruro, Bolivia is $5.56(2) \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ (BERMAN in PALACHE *et al.*, 1944).

Intensity collection

Diffracted intensities were recorded with a Buerger equi-inclination counter diffractometer equipped with a proportional counter as detector and pulse-height analysis circuitry. Data on the zero to twelfth levels were obtained through rotation of the crystal about *b*. Of 3579 independent reflections contained within the $\text{CuK}\alpha$ sphere of reflection, 2953 were accessible with the diffractometer which was used. Background intensity was measured for 50 sec at φ equal to $\pm 3^\circ$ of the diffraction maximum, and the total counts and scanning time were recorded as the crystal was rotated through 6° in φ . An intensity was considered to be below the minimum limit of detectability when the counts accumulated during a scan less the probable error (0.6745σ) fell below the value of the integrated background plus its probable

error. Such intensities were assigned a value equal to one-third the minimum detectable value.

The high linear absorption coefficient and small crystal volume combined to produce very weak intensities. (The strongest intensity provided a diffraction peak of only 500 counts/sec.) As a result 651 of the 2953 accessible intensities were undetectable and the data which could be recorded were subject to high standard deviations. The intensities were corrected for Lorentz, polarization, and spherical absorption factors with the aid of the programs FINTE and GAMP (ONKEN, 1964). No correction for extinction was employed.

Solution of the structure

The structure of pligionite was solved with the aid of the symbolic addition procedure. The 2302 observable structure factors were placed on an absolute scale with the aid of a Wilson plot. Normalized structure factors, E , where $|E(hkl)|^2 = |F(hkl)|^2/\varepsilon\Sigma f^2(hkl)$, and $\varepsilon = 2$ for both hkl reflections (as a result of the C lattice) and $h0l$ reflections (as a result of the c glide) were computed with the program FAME (FLEISCHER, DEWAR and STONE, 1967). The statistics of the distribution of $|E|$'s (Table 3), supports selection of the centrosymmetric space group as the correct option in accord with the morphology of the mineral. The 25 largest E 's (> 2.515) were tested for Σ_2 interactions to assign optimum initial sign symbols. The symbolic addition procedure was performed with the aid of the program MAGIC (FLEISCHER *et al.*, 1967) utilizing nine symbolic signs and a set of 950 E 's > 0.831 . After five iterations, 767 E 's were assigned sign symbols. One symbol was little used and was discarded. Of 64 possible sign combinations (2^n , where n is the number of symbols less two origin-defining symbols), one indicated a contradiction index which was an order of magnitude smaller than the remaining combinations. Upon ignoring knowns containing other than the eight retained symbols, 633 E 's were assigned signs at probability levels greater than 0.989.

Refinement of the structure

An E map based upon the signs obtained through the symbolic addition procedure clearly revealed the locations of four Sb atoms, all in general position $8f$, two Pb atoms in the general position and one Pb in special position $4e2$. Positions for the sulfur atoms were also suggested in the E map but their location was deferred to subsequent

difference maps computed on the basis of signs determined from the heavy-atom locations.

Refinement of the metal atom coordinates and temperature factors with the full-matrix least-squares program SFLSQ5 (PREWITT, 1962) resulted in a disagreement index, $R = \sum |F_{\text{obs}} - F_{\text{cal}}| / \sum F_{\text{obs}}$, of 27.5%. A difference map prepared at this stage revealed positions for nine sulfur atoms—eight in the general position, plus one in special position $4e2$. The sulfur atoms were incorporated in the refinement and, in addition, corrections for anomalous dispersion were made for all atoms. Further, the weighting scheme (previously based on $w = \sigma^{-2}$, where σ is the standard deviation based upon the counting statistics of the individual intensity measurements) was examined by evaluating $\sum w (F_{\text{obs}} - F_{\text{cal}})^2$ as a function of $|F_{\text{obs}}|$. It was found that $\sum w \Delta^2$ was proportional to $|F_{\text{obs}}|$; the weighting scheme adopted in subsequent cycles of refinement was adjusted such that $\sum w \Delta^2$ was independent of $|F_{\text{obs}}|$. Under these conditions, subsequent refinement of atomic positions, isotropic temperature factors, and a single scale factor converged to a disagreement index of 18.2%. The “weighted” R , $[\sum w (F_{\text{obs}} - F_{\text{cal}})^2 / \sum w F_{\text{obs}}^2]^{1/2}$, was 20.0%. Upon inclusion of the 651 unobservable structure factors, R became 21.8%.

A difference map prepared at this stage revealed only one sort of anomaly: a classic “clover leaf” about each atom which is usually indicative of anisotropic thermal motion. However, the orientation of the anomaly was identical for every atom in the asymmetric unit. This suggested a physically unreasonable thermal motion and the anomalies were instead interpreted as arising from a systematic error in the correction for absorption. Remeasurement of the sample did indeed reveal a departure from sphericity, but the irregularity was too small (0.002 mm) to permit accurate measurement and incorporation into an improved absorption correction. In view of the large linear absorption coefficient, the variation in shape is sufficient to cause an error in the set of F_{obs} which would range from 5.84% at $\theta = 0^\circ$ to 1.85% at $\theta = 90^\circ$. Introduction of anisotropic thermal motion would have improved the agreement between observed and calculated structure factors. The parameters obtained, however, would have been without physical significance, and refinement was accordingly terminated at $R = 18.2\%$.

While this level of agreement would be high for a less-absorbing material, it may be satisfactorily explained in terms of the counting statistics of the data set and the uncertainty in the correction for

absorption. Figure 1 presents the average value of σ/F_{obs} (where σ is the standard deviation in a structure factor obtained from counting statistics), for groups of 75 reflections of neighboring magnitude, plotted as a function of the magnitude of F_{obs} . The value of $\Sigma\sigma/\Sigma|F_{\text{obs}}|$, a quantity analogous to R , was 8.06% for the entire data set; $\sigma/|F_{\text{obs}}|$ is greater than 10% for half of the observable data. Figure 1 also includes plots as a function of $|F_{\text{obs}}|$ of the average values of $|F_1 - F_2|/\frac{1}{2}(F_1 + F_2)$ where F_1 and F_2 are symmetry-equivalent structure

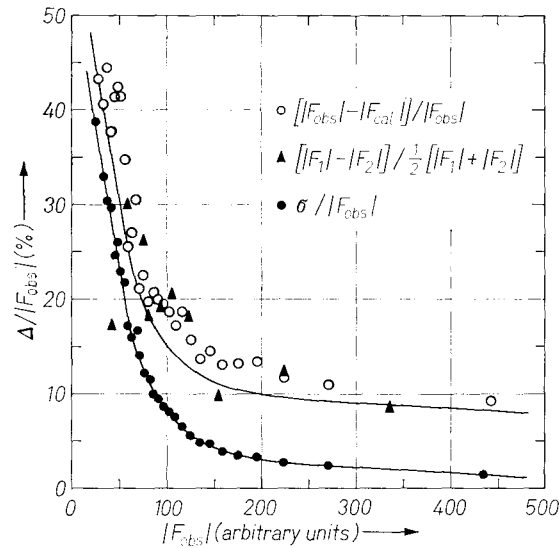


Fig. 1. Comparisons of plots, as a function of $|F_{\text{obs}}|$, of $\sigma/|F_{\text{obs}}|$ (each datum is an average of a group of 75 reflections of neighboring magnitude); $|F_{\text{obs}}| - |F_{\text{cal}}|/\Sigma|F_{\text{obs}}|$ (groups of 75 reflections) and $|F_1| - |F_2|/\frac{1}{2}(|F_1| + |F_2|)$, where F_1 and F_2 are measurements of equivalent structure factors (groups of eight reflections). Only the observable data are included

factors, and R , $|F_{\text{obs}}| - |F_{\text{cal}}|/|F_{\text{obs}}|$. The value of $\Sigma|F_1 - F_2|/\Sigma\frac{1}{2}(F_1 + F_2)$ was 14.9%—comparable to the value of 18.2% obtained for R . Figure 1 shows the agreement between F_{obs} and F_{cal} to be essentially that between symmetry-equivalent reflections. The upper line drawn through the plots of R and the agreement between equivalent F_{obs} is a curve obtained by the addition of 6.8%, the difference between $\Sigma|F_1 - F_2|/\Sigma\frac{1}{2}(F_1 + F_2)$ and $\Sigma\sigma/\Sigma|F_{\text{obs}}|$, to the curve describing the variation of $\sigma/|F_{\text{obs}}|$ with $|F_{\text{obs}}|$. The result is a fair

representation of the variation of R with $|F_{\text{obs}}|$. The difference between $\sigma/|F_{\text{obs}}|$ and $|F_{\text{obs}} - F_{\text{cal}}|/|F_{\text{obs}}|$ is therefore not a function of $|F_{\text{obs}}|$, and turns out to be comparable (although slightly larger) to the 5.8% to 1.9% error introduced by the uncertainty in the correction for absorption.

Results of the refinement

The asymmetric unit of plagiomite contains sixteen atoms: 2Pb, 4Sb and 8S atoms located in general position $8f$, plus 1Pb and 1S atom in special position $4e2$. The atomic positions and isotropic temperature factors are presented in Table 4. The parameters reported are those of CHO and WUENSCH (1970), but the asymmetric unit has been redefined in order to emphasize features of the structure which are discussed in the following section. The relation between the present designation of the asymmetric unit and that previously reported is

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 \text{Pb}(1) = \text{Pb}(3^4) & \text{Sb}(3) = \text{Sb}(2^3) & \text{S}(4) = \text{S}(8^2) \\
 \text{Pb}(2) = \text{Pb}(2^2) & \text{Sb}(4) = \text{Sb}(3^3) & \text{S}(5) = \text{S}(1^3) \\
 \text{Pb}(3) = \text{Pb}(1^6) & \text{S}(1) = \text{S}(9^2) & \text{S}(6) = \text{S}(6^1) \\
 \text{Sb}(1) = \text{Sb}(1^4) & \text{S}(2) = \text{S}(2^4) & \text{S}(7) = \text{S}(7^1) \\
 \text{Sb}(2) = \text{Sb}(4^3) & \text{S}(3) = \text{S}(3^4) & \text{S}(8) = \text{S}(4^3) \\
 & & \text{S}(9) = \text{S}(5^3)
 \end{array}$$

Table 4. *Atomic positions and temperature factors for plagiomite*
(estimated standard deviations in parentheses)

Atom	x	y	z	B
Pb(1)	— 0.5	0.6801(4)	0.75	2.68(7) Å ²
Pb(2)	— 0.2310(2)	0.6259(2)	0.6780(2)	2.18(4)
Pb(3)	0.2634(3)	0.4138(3)	0.5516(2)	2.67(5)
Sb(1)	0.0018(4)	0.5184(4)	0.6053(3)	2.54(8)
Sb(2)	0.4906(3)	0.3047(3)	0.4715(2)	1.77(6)
Sb(3)	0.7290(4)	0.1904(4)	0.4143(2)	1.83(6)
Sb(4)	0.9539(3)	0.1250(4)	0.3329(2)	1.80(6)
S(1)	— 1.0	0.7431(23)	0.75	2.4(4)
S(2)	— 0.8188(14)	0.7338(14)	0.6709(9)	2.1(3)
S(3)	— 0.6113(10)	0.6387(11)	0.6017(7)	1.5(2)
S(4)	— 0.3699(14)	0.5258(14)	0.5583(9)	1.9(2)
S(5)	— 0.1087(12)	0.4160(13)	0.4991(9)	1.7(2)
S(6)	0.1314(12)	0.3104(12)	0.4367(8)	1.6(2)
S(7)	0.3812(12)	0.1926(13)	0.3759(8)	2.2(3)
S(8)	0.6135(11)	0.0766(11)	0.3210(8)	1.7(2)
S(9)	0.8532(14)	— 0.0046(14)	0.2438(10)	2.0(2)

Table 5. Comparison of observed and calculated structure factors (asterisk indicates unobservable structure factors which were assigned values estimated from one-third the minimum observable intensity)

Table with 20 columns representing Miller indices (h, k, l) and pairs of observed (|Fo|) and calculated (|Fc|) structure factors. The table lists data for various reflections, with asterisks indicating unobservable values.

2.54(8) Å² for Sb(1), but 1.77(6) to 1.83(2) Å² for Sb(2) through Sb(4), and 1.6(2) to 2.4(4) Å² for the nine sulfur atoms. The observed structure factors are compared in Table 5 with those calculated with the parameters of Table 4.

Discussion of the structure

Interatomic distances along with their estimated standard deviations are summarized for pligionite in Table 6. Bond angles are presented in Tables 7 and 8. Coordination polyhedra for the Pb and Sb atoms are presented in Figs. 2 and 3, while the arrangement of metal atoms about each sulfur atom is depicted in Fig. 4.

Both Pb(2) and Pb(3) display a short apical bond (2.83 and 2.75 Å) above an equatorial plane of four sulfur neighbors which occur at larger distances (2.88–3.07 Å and 2.87–3.04 Å). The locations of these five neighbors are close to five of the six vertices of an octahedral configura-

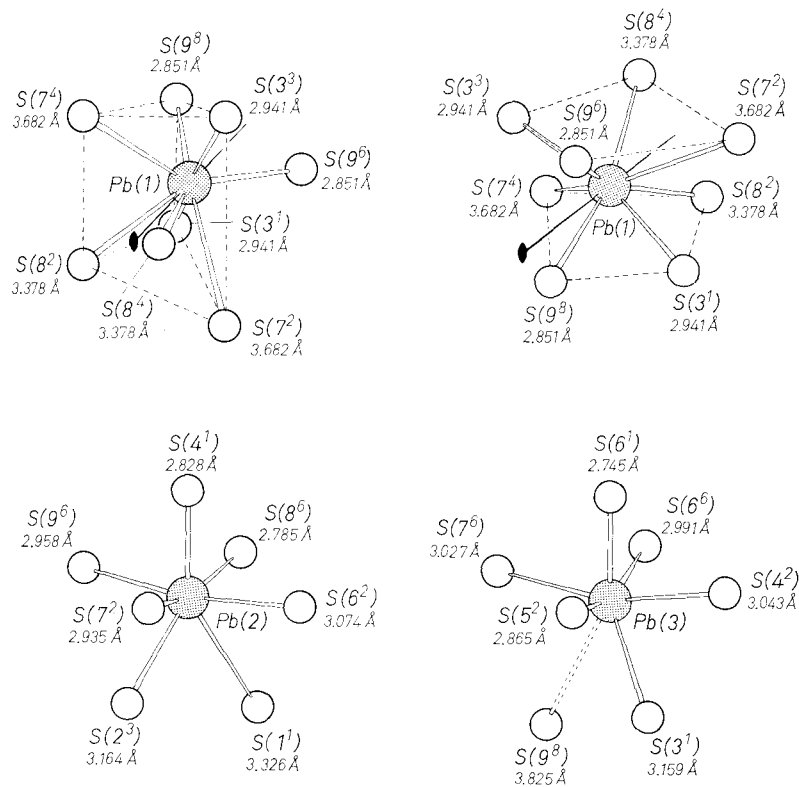


Fig. 2. Polyhedra formed by sulfur atoms about the lead atoms in pligionite

tion. Both Pb atoms have a sixth sulfur atom at still larger distance (3.16 Å) which is displaced from the ideal octahedral location. The average of the bond distances for the six closest sulfur atoms in both the Pb(2) and Pb(3) polyhedra is 2.972 Å, which is virtually identical to the value of 2.965 Å found in the regular octahedron in galena, PbS.

Table 6. *Interatomic distances in pligionite*

(Estimated standard deviations in parentheses. Second-nearest neighbors in brackets)

Pb(1)		Pb(2)		Pb(3)	
S(9 ⁶)	2.851(17) Å (2×)	S(4)	2.828(18) Å	S(6)	2.745(16) Å
S(3)	2.941(14) (2×)	S(8 ⁶)	2.875(15)	S(5 ²)	2.865(16)
S(8 ²)	3.378(15) (2×)	S(7 ²)	2.935(14)	S(6 ⁶)	2.991(14)
[S(7 ²)	3.682(16) (2×)]	S(9 ⁶)	2.958(18)	S(7 ⁶)	3.027(16)
		S(6 ²)	3.074(15)	S(4 ²)	3.043(18)
		S(2 ³)	3.164(18)	S(3)	3.159(16)
		S(1)	3.326(15)	[S(9 ⁸)	3.825(18)]
Sb(1)		Sb(2)		Sb(3)	
S(5)	2.517(17) Å	S(7)	2.436(16) Å	S(8)	2.452(15) Å
S(6 ²)	2.677(15)	S(4 ²)	2.545(17)	S(2 ²)	2.528(18)
S(8 ⁶)	2.685(15)	S(3 ²)	2.578(14)	S(3 ²)	2.537(14)
S(7 ⁶)	2.924(16)	S(5 ⁶)	3.031(16)	S(5 ⁶)	2.980(17)
S(5 ²)	2.969(17)	S(6 ⁶)	3.118(16)	S(4 ⁶)	3.143(17)
[S(2)	3.497(16)]	[S(4)	3.392(18)]	[S(5)	3.555(16)]
[S(1)	3.939(19)]	[S(2 ⁵)	4.141(16)]	[S(3 ⁵)	3.779(15)]
Sb(4)		S(1)		S(2)	
S(9)	2.440(16) Å	Sb(4 ²)	2.488(16) Å (2×)	Sb(4 ²)	2.460(18) Å
S(2 ²)	2.460(18)	Pb(2)	3.326(15) (2×)	Sb(3 ²)	2.528(18)
S(1 ²)	2.488(16)	[Sb(1)	3.939(19) (2×)]	Pb(2 ³)	3.164(18)
[S(4 ⁶)	3.266(18)]			[Sb(1)	3.497(17)]
[S(6)	3.456(16)]			[Sb(2 ⁵)	4.141(16)]
[S(9 ³)	3.720(18)]				
[S(3 ⁶)	3.790(14)]				
S(3)		S(4)		S(5)	
Sb(3 ²)	2.537(14) Å	Sb(2 ²)	2.545(17) Å	Sb(1)	2.517(17) Å
Sb(2 ²)	2.578(14)	Pb(2)	2.828(18)	Pb(3 ²)	2.865(16)
Pb(1)	2.941(14)	Pb(3 ²)	3.043(18)	Sb(1 ²)	2.969(17)
Pb(3)	3.159(16)	Sb(3 ⁶)	3.143(17)	Sb(3 ⁶)	2.980(17)
[Sb(3 ⁵)	3.779(15)]	[Sb(4 ⁶)	3.266(18)]	Sb(2 ⁶)	3.031(16)
[Sb(4 ⁶)	3.790(14)]	[Sb(2)	3.392(18)]	[Sb(3)	3.555(16)]

Table 6. (Continued)

S(6)		S(7)	
Sb(1 ²)	2.677(15) Å	Sb(2)	2.436(16) Å
Pb(3)	2.745(16)	Sb(1 ⁶)	2.924(16)
Pb(3 ⁶)	2.991(14)	Pb(2 ²)	2.935(14)
Pb(2 ²)	3.074(15)	Pb(3 ⁶)	3.027(16)
Sb(2 ⁶)	3.118(16)	[Pb(1 ²)	3.682(16)]
[Sb(4)	3.456(16)]		
S(8)		S(9)	
Sb(3)	2.452(15) Å	Sb(4)	2.440(18) Å
Sb(1 ⁶)	2.685(15)	Pb(1 ⁴)	2.851(17)
Pb(2 ⁶)	2.875(15)	Pb(2 ⁶)	2.958(18)
Pb(1 ²)	3.378(15)	[Sb(4 ³)	3.720(18)]
		[Pb(3 ⁸)	3.827(18)]

Table 7. Bond angles in the metal-atom coordination polyhedra

(Estimated standard deviations in parentheses. Bond angles involving one or more second-nearest neighbors are enclosed in brackets. Bond angles involving two of the three shortest bonds for Sb are indicated by an asterisk)

Pb(1)			
S(8 ²)—Pb(1)—S(8 ⁴)	62.5(5)°	S(3 ¹)—Pb(1)—S(9 ⁶)	93.6(7) (2×)
S(3 ¹)	S(7 ²) 64.9(4) (2×)	S(3 ³)	S(9 ⁶) 72.1(4)° (2×)
S(7 ²)	S(8 ²) 66.2(4) (2×)	S(7 ²)	S(8 ⁴) 72.7(4) (2×)
S(8 ⁴)	S(3 ³) 71.7(4) (2×)	S(7 ²)	S(9 ⁶) 83.8(4) (2×)
		S(9 ⁶)	S(9 ⁸) 86.1(7)
Pb(2)		Pb(3)	
S(1 ¹)—Pb(2)—S(2 ³)	60.7(5)°	[S(3 ¹)—Pb(3)—S(9 ⁸)	57.5(4)°]
S(1 ¹)	S(6 ²) 70.1(3)	[S(7 ⁶)	S(9 ⁸) 72.2(4)]
S(2 ³)	S(9 ⁶) 71.8(5)	S(3 ¹)	S(4 ²) 73.0(4)
S(4 ¹)	S(7 ²) 77.6(5)	S(3 ¹)	S(5 ²) 77.4(4)
S(4 ¹)	S(6 ²) 78.4(4)	S(5 ²)	S(6 ¹) 78.1(5)
S(6 ²)	S(8 ⁶) 81.3(4)	S(4 ²)	S(6 ¹) 80.2(5)
S(4 ¹)	S(8 ⁶) 83.2(5)	S(6 ¹)	S(6 ⁶) 81.0(6)
S(1 ¹)	S(8 ⁶) 84.4(4)	S(6 ¹)	S(7 ⁶) 82.2(4)
S(4 ¹)	S(9 ⁶) 84.8(5)	S(6 ⁶)	S(7 ⁶) 87.1(4)
S(6 ²)	S(7 ²) 87.3(4)	S(4 ²)	S(6 ⁶) 87.2(4)
S(8 ⁶)	S(9 ⁶) 88.9(4)	S(5 ²)	S(7 ⁶) 87.6(4)
S(2 ³)	S(7 ²) 89.0(5)	S(4 ²)	S(5 ²) 91.6(5)
S(7 ²)	S(9 ⁶) 96.8(5)	[S(5 ²)	S(9 ⁸) 97.9(4)]
S(1 ¹)	S(7 ²) 108.0(6)	[S(6 ⁶)	S(9 ⁸) 99.8(4)]
S(2 ³)	S(8 ⁶) 111.7(4)	S(3 ¹)	S(6 ⁶) 122.0(4)
S(1 ¹)	S(9 ⁶) 124.9(5)	S(3 ¹)	S(7 ⁶) 124.1(4)
S(2 ³)	S(6 ²) 126.6(4)	[S(4 ²)	S(9 ⁸) 125.5(4)]

Table 7. (Continued)

Sb(1)		Sb(2)	
[S(1 ¹)—Sb(1)—S(2 ¹)	52.0(5)°]	[S(2 ⁵)—Sb(2)—S(5 ⁶)	59.8(5)°]
[S(1 ¹)	S(6 ²) 64.4(4)]	[S(2 ⁵)	S(4 ¹) 64.7(4)]
[S(2 ¹)	S(5 ²) 69.3(5)]	[S(2 ⁵)	S(6 ⁶) 68.3(4)]
[S(1 ¹)	S(8 ⁶) 75.6(4)]	[S(4 ¹)	S(4 ²) 74.2(5)]
S(5 ¹)	S(5 ²) 79.8(7)	[S(3 ²)	S(4 ¹) 75.0(4)]
S(5 ¹)	S(7 ⁶) 81.8(5)	S(5 ⁶)	S(7 ¹) 80.9(5)
[S(2 ¹)	S(6 ²) 83.6(5)	S(5 ⁶)	S(6 ⁶) 81.1(4)
S(5 ¹)	S(6 ²) 85.8(5)*	S(6 ⁶)	S(7 ¹) 85.4(5)
S(7 ⁶)	S(8 ⁶) 87.0(5)	S(3 ²)	S(5 ⁶) 87.2(4)
S(5 ²)	S(7 ⁶) 87.7(5)	S(3 ²)	S(7 ¹) 92.0(5)*
S(5 ¹)	S(8 ⁶) 88.0(5)*	S(4 ²)	S(7 ¹) 92.9(6)*
S(5 ²)	S(6 ²) 90.1(5)	S(4 ²)	S(6 ⁶) 94.1(5)
S(6 ²)	S(8 ⁶) 92.7(5)*	S(3 ²)	S(4 ²) 97.4(5)*
[S(2 ¹)	S(7 ⁶) 106.9(5)]	[S(2 ⁵)	S(3 ²) 106.4(5)]
[S(1 ¹)	S(5 ²) 116.6(5)]	[S(4 ¹)	S(6 ⁶) 110.3(4)]
[S(2 ¹)	S(8 ⁶) 123.4(4)]	[S(4 ¹)	S(5 ⁶) 112.9(5)]
[S(1 ¹)	S(7 ⁶) 127.3(4)]	[S(2 ⁵)	S(4 ²) 123.9(4)]
Sb(3)		Sb(4)	
[S(3 ⁵)—Sb(3)—S(4 ⁶)	63.7(5)°]	[S(3 ⁶)—Sb(4)—S(9 ³)	54.0(5)°]
[S(3 ⁵)	S(5 ¹) 63.9(5)]	[S(3 ⁶)	S(4 ⁶) 65.6(5)]
[S(3 ⁵)	S(5 ⁶) 66.7(4)]	[S(1 ²)	S(9 ³) 69.1(3)]
[S(2 ²)	S(5 ¹) 72.7(5)]	[S(1 ²)	S(6 ¹) 74.6(6)]
[S(3 ²)	S(5 ¹) 74.5(4)]	[S(9 ¹)	S(9 ³) 75.2(7)]
S(5 ⁶)	S(8 ¹) 82.9(5)	[S(3 ⁶)	S(9 ¹) 82.3(5)]
S(4 ⁶)	S(8 ¹) 84.2(5)	S(1 ²)	S(2 ²) 83.1(7)*
S(4 ⁶)	S(5 ⁶) 87.6(5)	[S(4 ⁶)	S(9 ¹) 85.0(5)]
S(3 ²)	S(5 ⁶) 89.1(5)	[S(2 ²)	S(6 ¹) 87.7(5)]
S(2 ²)	S(8 ¹) 90.4(6)*	[S(2 ²)	S(4 ⁶) 89.7(5)]
S(2 ²)	S(4 ⁶) 91.3(5)	[S(6 ¹)	S(9 ³) 93.8(5)]
S(2 ²)	S(3 ²) 92.1(5)*	[S(3 ⁶)	S(6 ¹) 95.8(5)]
S(3 ²)	S(8 ¹) 96.4(5)*	S(1 ²)	S(9 ¹) 96.0(5)*
[S(4 ⁶)	S(5 ¹) 106.0(5)]	S(2 ²)	S(9 ¹) 99.2(6)*
[S(5 ¹)	S(5 ⁶) 114.0(7)]	[S(4 ⁶)	S(6 ¹) 105.3(5)]
[S(3 ²)	S(3 ⁵) 114.0(5)]	[S(4 ⁶)	S(9 ³) 118.0(4)]
[S(2 ²)	S(3 ⁵) 118.6(5)]	[S(1 ²)	S(3 ⁶) 121.6(5)]

Pb(2) has an additional seventh neighbor S(1) at 3.33 Å which, along with S(2³), constitute a “split” vertex for the octahedron. The plane defined by this split vertex approximately bisects two of the four equatorial bond angles. This is the case with seven-coordinated Pb atoms in other sulfosalts—*e.g.* aikinite, PbCuBiS₃ (I. KOHATSU and

Table 8
Angles between nearest-neighbor bonds in sulfur-atom coordination polyhedra

S(1)					
Pb(2 ³)—S(1)—Sb(4 ²)	99.5° (2×)	Pb(2 ¹)—S(1)—Sb(4 ²)	111.2° (2×)		
Sb(4 ²)	Sb(4 ⁴)	102.0	Pb(2 ¹)	Pb(2 ³)	130.6
S(2)			S(3)		
Pb(2 ³)—S(2)—Sb(1 ¹)	89.5°	Pb(1 ¹)—S(3)—Sb(3 ²)	96.2°		
Sb(1 ¹)	Sb(4 ²)	93.6	Sb(2 ²)	Sb(3 ²)	101.3
Sb(3 ²)	Sb(4 ²)	103.6	Pb(1 ¹)	Sb(2 ²)	108.0
Pb(2 ³)	Sb(4 ²)	104.6	Pb(3 ¹)	Sb(3 ²)	112.3
Sb(1 ¹)	Sb(3 ²)	115.1	Pb(3 ¹)	Sb(2 ²)	114.1
Pb(2 ³)	Sb(3 ²)	141.1	Pb(1 ¹)	Pb(3 ¹)	121.8
S(4)			S(5)		
Sb(3 ⁶)—S(4)—Sb(4 ⁶)	75.4°	Sb(2 ⁶)—S(5)—Sb(3 ⁶)	82.3°		
Pb(3 ²)	Sb(3 ⁶)	85.9	Sb(1 ¹)	Sb(3 ⁶)	90.2
Pb(2 ¹)	Sb(4 ⁶)	86.6	Pb(3 ²)	Sb(1 ²)	91.2
Pb(2 ¹)	Sb(3 ⁶)	88.9	Sb(1 ²)	Sb(2 ⁶)	91.5
Pb(3 ²)	Sb(2 ²)	92.9	Pb(3 ²)	Sb(3 ⁶)	92.3
Pb(2 ¹)	Sb(2 ²)	94.8	Sb(1 ¹)	Sb(2 ⁶)	96.2
Pb(2 ¹)	Pb(3 ²)	100.1	Pb(3 ²)	Sb(1 ¹)	98.4
Sb(2 ²)	Sb(4 ⁶)	105.4	Sb(1 ¹)	Sb(1 ²)	100.2
S(6)			S(7)		
Pb(3 ⁶)—S(6)—Sb(2 ⁶)	83.4°	Pb(1 ²)—S(7)—Pb(2 ²)	80.8°		
Pb(2 ²)	Pb(3 ⁶)	88.6	Pb(3 ⁶)	Sb(1 ⁶)	88.9
Pb(2 ²)	Sb(1 ²)	88.9	Pb(2 ²)	Pb(3 ⁶)	90.5
Pb(3 ¹)	Sb(1 ²)	91.6	Pb(1 ²)	Sb(2 ¹)	91.5
Sb(1 ²)	Sb(2 ⁶)	95.5	Pb(2 ²)	Sb(2 ¹)	94.6
Pb(3 ¹)	Sb(1 ²)	97.6	Pb(1 ²)	Sb(1 ⁶)	96.4
Pb(3 ¹)	Pb(3 ⁶)	99.0	Pb(3 ⁶)	Sb(2 ¹)	100.3
Pb(2 ²)	Pb(3 ¹)	101.3	Sb(1 ⁶)	Sb(2 ¹)	100.8
S(8)			S(9)		
Pb(1 ²)—S(8)—Sb(3 ¹)	87.5°	Pb(1 ⁴)—S(9)—Pb(2 ⁶)	96.3°		
Pb(2 ⁶)	Sb(1 ⁶)	93.0	Pb(2 ⁶)	Sb(4 ¹)	101.4
Sb(1 ⁶)	Sb(3 ¹)	98.9	Pb(1 ⁴)	Sb(4 ¹)	101.5
Pb(2 ⁶)	Sb(3 ¹)	103.3	Pb(1 ⁴)	Pb(3 ⁸)	105.0
Pb(1 ²)	Sb(1 ⁶)	109.0	Pb(3 ⁸)	Sb(4 ¹)	119.9
Pb(1 ²)	Pb(2 ⁶)	153.9	Pb(2 ⁶)	Pb(3 ⁸)	127.4

WUENSCH, 1971). A seventh sulfur atom may also be located about Pb(3), but it occurs at a significantly larger distance of 3.83 Å, and also falls approximately in the plane defined by S(7⁶)—Pb(3)—S(6) rather

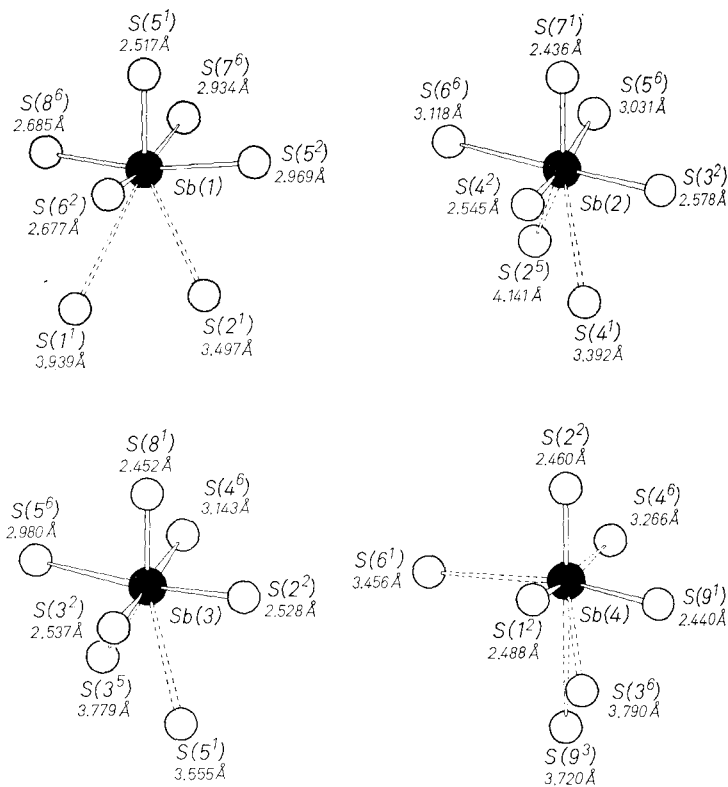


Fig. 3. Polyhedra formed by sulfur atoms about the antimony atoms in pligionite

than bisecting the angle between S(7) and S(6). In subsequent discussion Pb(3) is described as six-coordinated while Pb(2) is considered to have sevenfold coordination. The lead atom which occupies the special position, Pb(1), has markedly different coordination. Six neighbors occur in two symmetry-related and rather separated groups of three at distances of 2.85–3.38 Å (average: 3.06 Å). Seventh and eighth sulfur atom neighbors occur at larger distances of 3.68 Å. This polyhedron may be described as a distorted square antiprism or, alternatively, as a distorted trigonal prism with neighbors along two of the three normals to the prism faces. The latter configuration is more familiar for lead. Both representations are included in Fig. 2.

The sulfur atom arrangement about Sb(1) through Sb(3) displays the [1+2+2] coordination which is frequently found for Sb in sulfosalts. A short apical bond (2.44 to 2.52 Å for the three polyhedra)

Table 9. Sulfur-sulfur atom separations less than 5.0 Å in the metal-atom coordination polyhedra
(Asterisk indicates contact between a pair of atoms involved in two of the three shortest bonds within a polyhedron)

Pb(1)		Pb(2)		Pb(3)	
S(3 ³)—S(9 ⁶)	3.41 Å (2 ×)*	S(1 ¹)—S(2 ³)	3.28 Å	S(3 ¹)—S(9 ⁸)	3.41 Å
S(3 ¹)—S(7 ²)	3.61 (2 ×)	S(2 ³)—S(9 ⁶)	3.59	S(5 ²)—S(6 ¹)	3.54 *
S(3 ³)—S(8 ⁴)	3.72 (2 ×)	S(4 ¹)—S(7 ²)	3.61 *	S(3 ¹)—S(4 ²)	3.69
S(7 ²)—S(8 ²)	3.87 (2 ×)	S(1 ¹)—S(6 ²)	3.68	S(6 ¹)—S(6 ⁶)	3.73 *
S(9 ⁶)—S(9 ⁸)	3.89	S(4 ¹)—S(6 ²)	3.73	S(4 ²)—S(6 ¹)	3.73
S(7 ²)—S(8 ⁴)	4.19 (2 ×)	S(4 ¹)—S(8 ⁶)	3.79 *	S(3 ¹)—S(5 ²)	3.77
S(3 ¹)—S(9 ⁶)	4.22 (2 ×)	S(6 ²)—S(8 ⁶)	3.88	S(6 ¹)—S(7 ⁶)	3.80
S(7 ²)—S(9 ⁶)	4.41 (2 ×)	S(4 ¹)—S(9 ⁶)	3.90	S(5 ²)—S(7 ⁶)	4.08
		S(8 ⁶)—S(9 ⁶)	4.09	S(7 ⁶)—S(9 ⁸)	4.09
		S(6 ²)—S(7 ²)	4.15	S(6 ⁶)—S(7 ⁶)	4.15
		S(1 ¹)—S(8 ⁶)	4.18	S(4 ²)—S(6 ⁶)	4.16
		S(2 ³)—S(7 ²)	4.28	S(4 ²)—S(5 ²)	4.24
		S(7 ²)—S(9 ⁶)	4.41		
Sb(1)		Sb(2)		Sb(3)	
S(1 ¹)—S(2 ¹)	3.28 Å	S(5 ⁶)—S(7 ¹)	3.58 Å	S(2 ²)—S(8 ¹)	3.53 Å*
S(5 ¹)—S(6 ²)	3.54 *	S(3 ²)—S(7 ¹)	3.61 *	S(5 ⁶)—S(8 ¹)	3.62
S(5 ¹)—S(5 ²)	3.54	S(4 ²)—S(7 ¹)	3.61 *	S(2 ²)—S(3 ²)	3.65 *
S(5 ¹)—S(7 ⁶)	3.58	S(4 ¹)—S(4 ²)	3.65	S(3 ⁵)—S(4 ⁶)	3.69
S(5 ¹)—S(8 ⁶)	3.62 *	S(3 ²)—S(4 ¹)	3.69	S(2 ²)—S(5 ¹)	3.70
S(1 ¹)—S(6 ²)	3.68	S(2 ⁵)—S(5 ⁶)	3.70	S(3 ²)—S(8 ¹)	3.72 *
S(2 ¹)—S(5 ²)	3.70	S(6 ⁶)—S(7 ¹)	3.80	S(3 ⁵)—S(5 ⁶)	3.77
S(7 ⁶)—S(8 ⁶)	3.87	S(3 ²)—S(4 ²)	3.85 *	S(3 ²)—S(5 ¹)	3.77
S(6 ²)—S(8 ⁶)	3.88 *	S(5 ⁶)—S(6 ⁶)	4.00	S(4 ⁶)—S(8 ¹)	3.79
S(5 ²)—S(6 ²)	4.00	S(2 ⁵)—S(4 ¹)	4.08	S(3 ²)—S(5 ⁶)	3.88
S(5 ²)—S(7 ⁶)	4.08	S(2 ⁵)—S(6 ⁶)	4.16	S(3 ⁵)—S(5 ¹)	3.88
S(2 ¹)—S(6 ²)	4.16	S(4 ²)—S(6 ⁶)	4.16	S(2 ²)—S(4 ⁶)	4.08
S(1 ¹)—S(8 ⁶)	4.18			S(4 ⁶)—S(5 ⁶)	4.24
Sb(4)					
S(1 ²)—S(2 ²)	3.28 Å*	S(1 ²)—S(6 ¹)	3.68 Å	S(4 ⁶)—S(9 ¹)	3.90 Å
S(3 ⁶)—S(9 ³)	3.41	S(2 ²)—S(9 ¹)	3.73 *	S(2 ²)—S(4 ⁶)	4.08
S(1 ²)—S(9 ¹)	3.66 *	S(3 ⁶)—S(4 ⁶)	3.85	S(2 ²)—S(6 ¹)	4.16
S(1 ²)—S(9 ³)	3.66	S(9 ¹)—S(9 ³)	3.89	S(3 ⁶)—S(9 ¹)	4.22

occurs to a sulfur atom situated above an equatorial plane comprised of neighbors at two approximately equal intermediate distances [2.53 Å for Sb(3)—S(2²) to 2.69 Å for Sb(1)—S(8⁶)]. Fourth and fifth neighbors occur at still larger and approximately equal distances of 2.92 Å

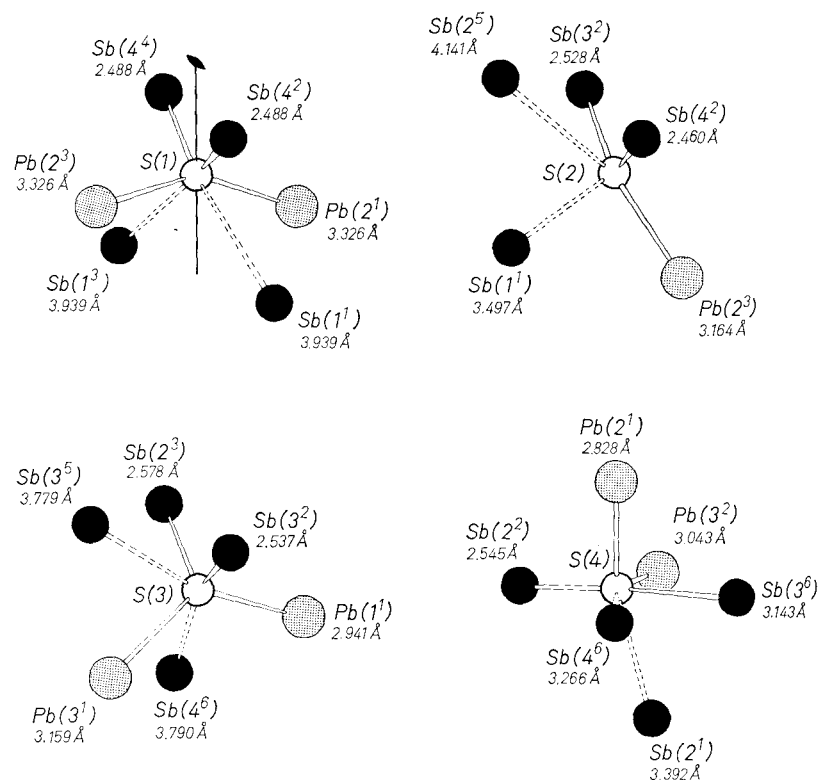


Fig. 4/1

Fig. 4. Polyhedra formed by the metal atoms about the sulfur atoms in pligionite

[Sb(1)—S(7⁶)] to 3.14 Å [Sb(3)—S(4⁶)]. Averages for the three sets of distances in the three coordination polyhedra of this type in pligionite are 2.468, 2.592 and 3.028 Å. The fourth antimony atom, Sb(4), displays a slightly different coordination scheme: The first three neighbors are at comparable lengths, while the fourth and fifth neighbors occur at distances which are larger than those of corresponding neighbors in the five-coordinated groups. Sb(4) is therefore described as 3-coordinated in subsequent discussion. The simultaneous occurrence of [3] and [1+2+2] coordinated groups is not unknown in Sb sulfides. A notable example is stibnite, Sb₂S₃ (ŠČAVNIČAR, 1960; BAYLISS and NOWACKI, 1972). Sixth and seventh S neighbors may be located about each of the four independent Sb atoms, but these occur at much larger distances of 3.39 Å [Sb(2)—S(4)] to 4.14 Å [Sb(2)—S(2⁵)]. Sulfur-atom

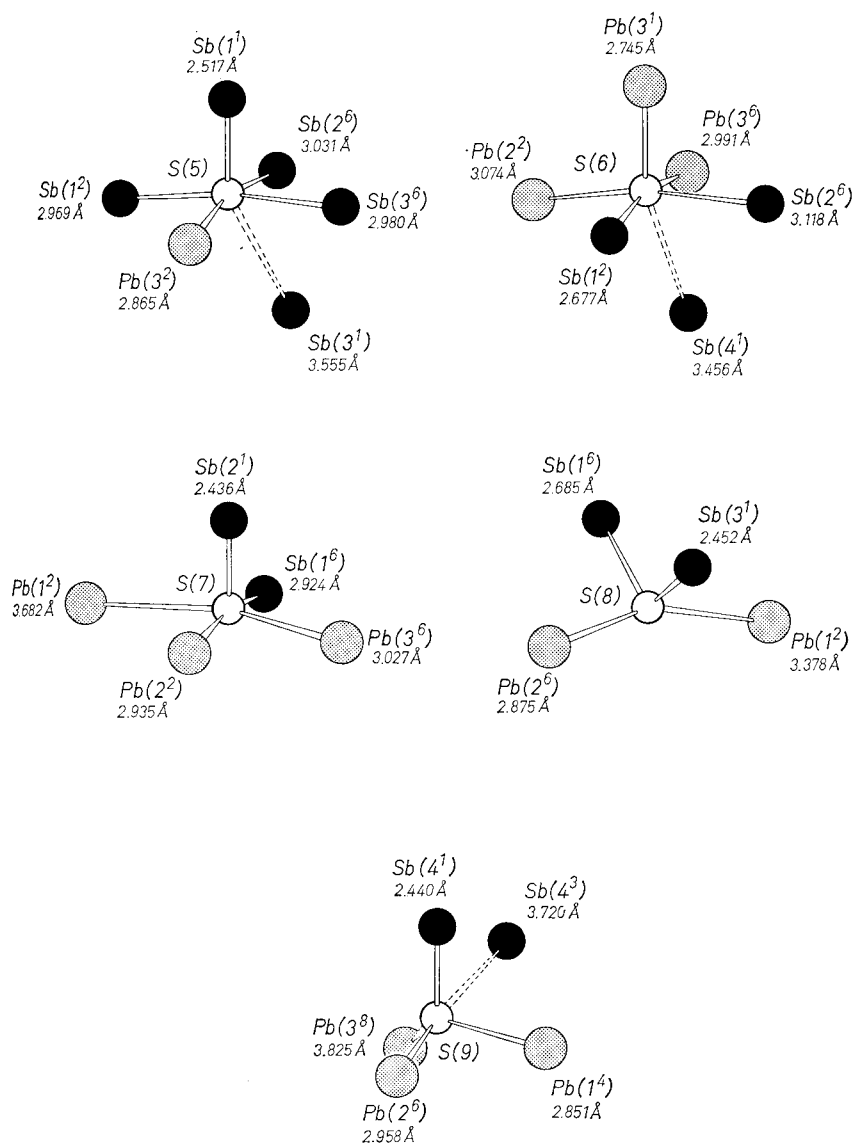


Fig. 4/2

contact distances in the metal-atom coordination polyhedra are summarized in Table 9. Few distances are less than the van der Waals contact distance of 3.70 Å. The primary exceptions are contacts

between the sulfur atoms involved in the shortest bonds to the metal atoms.

On the basis of the nearest and next-nearest neighbor configuration which has somewhat arbitrarily been assigned to the metal-atom coordination, the sulfur-atom polyhedra fall into three groups: 3-coordinated [S(2) and S(9)], distorted tetrahedral coordination by two Sb and two Pb atoms [S(1), S(3) and S(8)] and fivefold square-pyramidal coordination [S(4), S(5), S(6) and S(7)]. The sulfur-atom polyhedra are depicted in Fig. 4. It is of interest to note that, in the five-coordinated polyhedra present in the structure, the metal atoms are invariably displaced *downward* from the base of the square pyramid (*i.e.*, away from the apical sulfur atom), while the five-coordinated sulfur atoms are displaced *upwards*.

A projection of the pligionite structure along b is presented in Fig. 5. The most immediately noticed feature of the structure is the grouping of metal and sulfur atoms on alternate (400) planes. In particular, a cluster of two Pb(2) and two Pb(3) pseudo-octahedra share edges to form a four-membered string parallel to c . These clusters are linked by the Pb(1) polyhedra to form a continuous chain of Pb groups in (010) which runs parallel to $[10\bar{1}]$. The Pb chain is flanked by Sb square pyramids which share an apical edge with the Pb octahedra. The bases of the Sb square pyramids, and also the equatorial plane of the Pb octahedra, are oriented parallel to $\{112\}$. Two-layer slabs parallel to (112) and $(1\bar{1}2)$, respectively, alternate along c . The boundaries of these PbS-like regions are (002) planes which pass through the twofold axes of the structure at $z = 1/4$ and $3/4$. Equivalent PbS-like slabs are repeated by b within these domains. The irregularly-coordinated Pb atom [Pb(1)] as well as the Sb atom and the S atoms with low coordination numbers may be seen to occur at the (002) boundaries of the rocksalt-like units. The pseudo-octahedral polyhedra occur within the interior of the rocksalt slabs of the structure.

All Pb-Sb sulfosalts other than members of the pligionite group would appear to be based upon stibnite-like chains (*i.e.*, a rocksalt-like slab which is two atoms in thickness) by virtue of their displaying one lattice constant equal to a multiple of 4 Å. The members of the pligionite group do not display this periodicity nor do they possess acicular habits with axes of elongation parallel to such a translation. It is therefore of great interest to note that the structure of pligionite may also be described in terms of similar infinite ribbons. The structure is merely such that the ribbons extend parallel to $\langle 110 \rangle$ rather than one

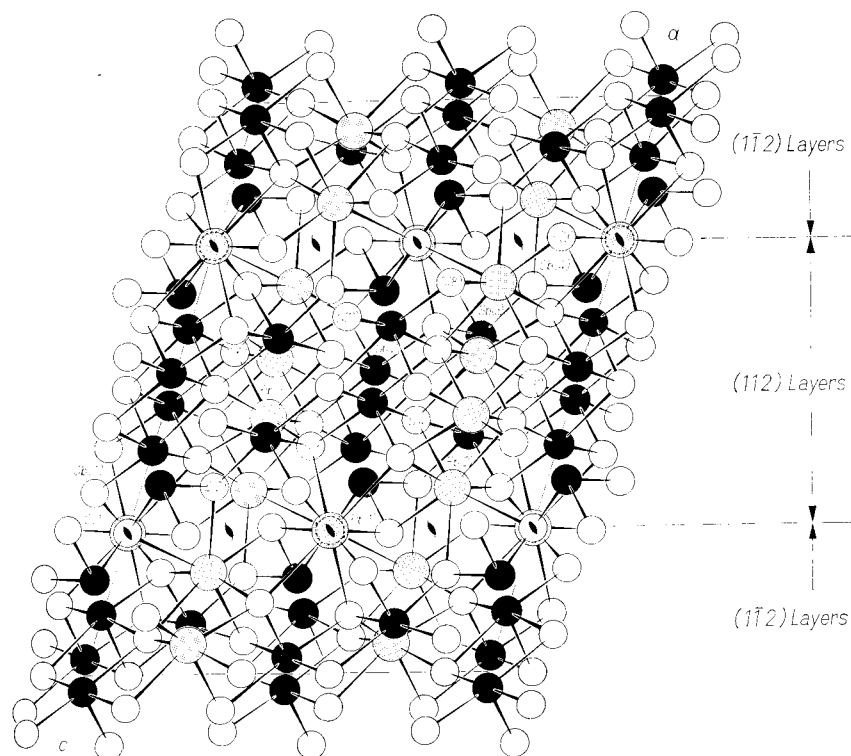


Fig. 5. Projection of the structure of plagiönite along b

of the cell edges. Traced in (010) the structure may be seen to consist of twisted ribbons of rocksalt-like slabs running parallel to (112) and $(\bar{1}\bar{1}2)$. The lead atom $[\text{Pb}(1)]$ and sulfur atom $[\text{S}(1)]$ in special positions act as pivot points common to $\{112\}$ slabs which are related by a two-fold rotation.

The rocksalt-like nature of the structure is best appreciated in a projection of the structure on (112) . Figure 6 presents this projection; only atoms within $ca.$ 7 to 11 Å above the origin of the cell are depicted [the first (112) rocksalt unit to be encountered in the cell upon moving out from the origin along c]. In this projection the rocksalt regions may be readily seen to extend indefinitely along $[\bar{1}10]$. Unlike the (presumably) stibnite-related Pb-Sb sulfosalts, the direction of extension of the ribbon is $[130]_{\text{PbS}}$ rather than $[110]_{\text{PbS}}$. The basis for selection of the asymmetric unit is displayed in the (112) projection. The designated

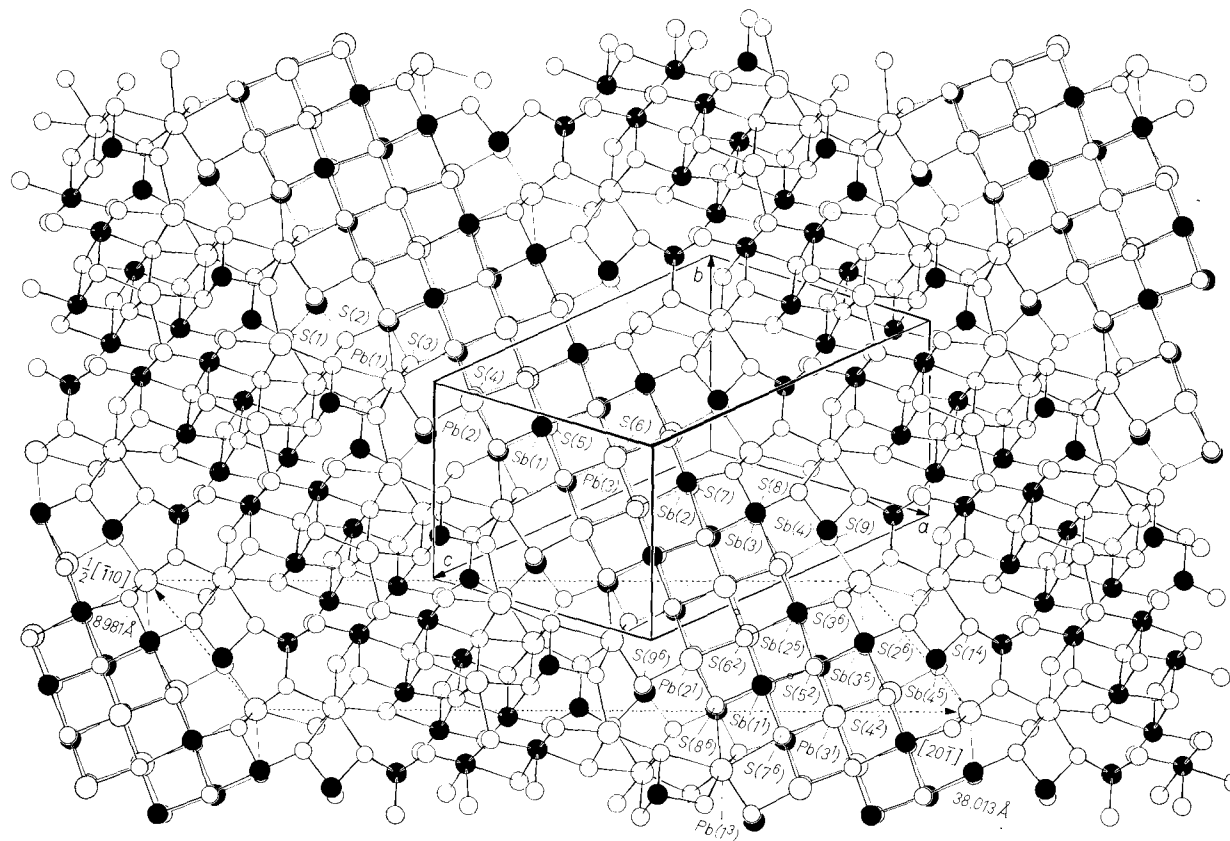


Fig. 6. Projection of a limited portion of the plagioclase structure (from *ca.* 7 to 11 Å above the origin of the cell) onto (112), the cleavage plane of the structure. The periodicity of the projection may be defined in terms of the dotted net given by $\frac{1}{2}[\bar{1}10]$, 8.981 Å, and $[20\bar{7}]$, 38.013 Å, both of which lie in (112). Elevations above the origin of the atoms designated within the net are summarized in Table 10

asymmetric unit consists of a single chain of metal-sulfur pairs which extends along $[110]_{\text{Pbs}}$.

The bonds within the PbS-like region are close to being orthogonal in the interior of the region. Distortion occurs near the boundaries. This is perhaps a result of accumulated misfit between Pb and Sb groups, but in part occurs because atoms belong to adjacent (112) and $(\bar{1}\bar{1}2)$ layers. The reason for the distinct coordinations of Pb(1) and Sb(4) is apparent in Fig. 6. Four of the eight bonds about Pb(1) represent distortions of semi-orthogonal rocksalt-like bonds in neighboring $\{112\}$ slabs. Similarly, the Sb(4)S₃ group is linked to an equivalent group in $(\bar{1}\bar{1}2)$ by twofold rotation about S(1). In order to maintain the Sb(4)—S(1) bond the antimony atom pulls away from the rocksalt-like region. The rocksalt-like layer is not only close in orientation to (112) , but is remarkably planar. Table 10 summarizes the elevation, above the origin, of the atoms in the upper layer of Fig. 6. [The lower layer is equivalent and is related by inversion centers which occur between layers at locations indicated in Fig. 6 by the small circles to the right of Sb(1¹) and above S(6²).] The root-mean-square departure from the mean elevation amounts to only 0.219 Å.

The manner in which neighboring (112) rocksalt-like layers interface upon repetition by b is illustrated in Fig. 7. The diagram is again a projection onto (112) and presents the lower layer of atoms in the

Table 10. *Elevation of the asymmetric unit above the origin of the cell of pligionite, measured in a direction normal to (112)*

(Designated atoms are identified in Fig. 6. Variations in averages are root-mean-square deviations from mean)

Atom	Elevation	Atom	Elevation
Pb(1 ³)	9.883 Å	S(1 ⁴)	10.335 Å
Pb(2 ¹)	10.300	S(2 ⁶)	10.254
Pb(3 ¹)	10.473	S(3 ⁶)	10.407
Sb(1 ¹)	10.182	S(4 ²)	10.162
Sb(2 ⁵)	10.226	S(5 ²)	9.968
Sb(3 ⁵)	10.283	S(6 ²)	9.911
Sb(4 ⁵)	10.263	S(7 ⁶)	9.850
		S(8 ⁶)	9.812
		S(9 ⁶)	9.787
Average for metal atoms 10.230 ± 0.165		Average for sulfur atoms	
Average for all atoms 10.131 ± 0.219		10.054 ± 0.225	

PbS-like region of Fig. 6 plus the upper layer of atoms in the adjacent slab (equivalent to the upper layer of atoms in Fig. 6 by the b translation). The shorter of the two "split vertex" bonds of the Pb and Sb atoms in pseudo-octahedral coordination may be seen to function as weak bonds between the rocksalt-like layers. The shift between neighboring layers is approximately $\frac{1}{2}[100]_{\text{PbS}}$, and the interface between adjacent two-layer slabs may thus be regarded as a weak, distorted continuation of rocksalt-like structure.

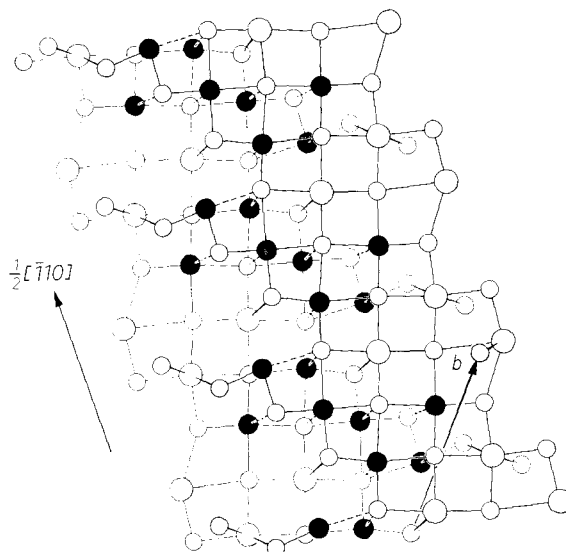


Fig. 7. Projection onto (112) of an interface between adjacent rocksalt-like layers in the pligionite structure

The presence of weakly-bonded interfaces between rocksalt-like slabs of atoms parallel to $\{112\}$ explains nicely the $\{112\}$ cleavage which is observed in the pligionite group. The composition of the series, $\text{Pb}_{3+2n}\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{15+n}$, may be accounted for in terms of the addition of one Pb and one S atom to the asymmetric unit of neighboring members. The uniform increase in c throughout the series may be explained if the additional Pb and S atoms serve to increase the length of the chain-like asymmetric unit and hence the width of the rocksalt-like ribbon of Fig. 6. The extent of the overlap of weakly-bonded $\{112\}$ layers (Fig. 7) would increase as the number of Pb atoms in the layer

increased. This feature would account for the observed increase in perfection of the {112} cleavage as one proceeds through the series.

A recent determination of the structure of semseyite in this laboratory (J. KOHATSU, 1973; J. KOHATSU and WUENSCH, 1974a) has confirmed this proposed relation between the structures. On the basis of a comparison between semseyite and pligionite, it has been possible to predict structures for the remaining known members of the pligionite group (f l ppite, $\text{Pb}_3\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{15}$, and heteromorphite, $\text{Pb}_7\text{Sb}_8\text{S}_{19}$) as well as to predict structures for hypothetical additional members of the homologous series (J. KOHATSU, 1973; J. KOHATSU and WUENSCH, 1974b).

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