# THE EFFECT OF CATION SUBSTITUTIONS ON THE PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF TRIOCTAHEDRAL MICAS 

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#### Abstract

Unit cell dimensions and refractive indices have been determined for synthetic hydrous trioctahedral micas in which each of $\mathrm{Co}^{2+}, \mathrm{Cu}^{2+}, \mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ and $\mathrm{Ni}^{2+}$ completely occupies the octahedral sites. Zn - and Mn -micas with excess aluminum have also been synthesized, but syntheses of pure $\mathrm{Zn}^{2+}, \mathrm{Mn}^{2+}, \mathrm{Cd}^{2+}$, and $\mathrm{Pb}^{2+}$ micas were not successful. Tetrahedral substitutions of $\mathrm{B}^{3+}, \mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$, and $\mathrm{Ga}^{3+}$ for $\mathrm{Al}^{3+}$ and $\mathrm{Ge}^{4+}$ for $\mathrm{Si}^{++}$, and interlayer cation substitutions of $\mathrm{Rb}^{+}, \mathrm{Cs}^{+}, \mathrm{NH}_{4}{ }^{+}$, and $\mathrm{Na}^{+}$for $\mathrm{K}^{+}$ provide additional data on linear relationships that exist between ionic radii (Shannon and Prewitt) and unit cell edges, and between (ionic radii) ${ }^{3}$ and unit cell volumes of these micas. The influence of substitutions on the unit cell are such that octahedral substitutions predominantly affect the $a$-dimension, interlayer substitutions the $c$-dimension, and tetrahedral substitutions affect both dimensions.

Tetrahedral and interlayer cation substitutions of a wide range of ionic radii were found to form stable micas. However, octahedral cations of greater than $0.78 \AA$ average ionic radius do not form stable trioctahedral micas of the form $\mathrm{K} R_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$. The instability of such micas is shown to be due to the misfit of smaller tetrahedral layers onto a larger octahedral layer. The composisition of natural biotites are explained on the basis of this model. In addition, quantitative predictions of the amount of $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$ in octahedral and tetrahedral positions in synthetic annite were made, and have been confirmed by Mőssbauer and analytical chemistry techniques. A nomogram is constructed from which, for any given composition of a hydrous trioctahedral mica, the relative stability of the mica may be determined.


## Introduction

Trioctahedral micas are subject to a wide variety of cation substitutions. Several authors have demonstrated that such substitutions have a profound effect on both the physical properties and the stabilities of these layer silicates (Hatch et al., 1957; Wones, 1963b; Klingsberg and Roy, 1957). A list of several recent studies on synthetic hydrous trioctahedral micas is given in Table 1. While data are now available for a dozen such mica end-members, there has been little attempt to systematically examine changes in mica properties with composition. The present study is an attempt to define quantitatively

[^0]Ablue 1. Previous Studies of Synthetic Hydrous Trioctahedral Micas

| Composition | Emphases of Study | References |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{KMg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ | Physical Properties. \& Stability Stability Structure | ```Yoder & Eugster (1954) Wones (1967) Steinfink (1962)``` |
| $\mathrm{KFe}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ | Stability \& Physical Properties Stability \& Physical Properties | Eugster \& Wones (1962) <br> Wones, Burns \& Carroll (1971) |
| $\left.\mathrm{K}(\mathrm{Mg}, \mathrm{Fe})_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}{ }^{(\mathrm{OH}}\right)_{2}$ | Physical Properties Stability | Wones (1963) <br> Wones \& Eugster (1965) |
| $\left.\mathrm{KMg}_{3} \mathrm{FeSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}{ }^{(\mathrm{OH}}\right)_{2}$ | Physical Properties | Wise \& Eugster (1964) |
| $\mathrm{KFe}_{3} \mathrm{FeSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ | Physical Properties | Wones (1963a) |
| $\mathrm{KMg}_{3} \mathrm{BSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{\perp 0}{ }^{(\mathrm{OH})_{2}}$ | Physical Properties Physical Properties | Eugster \& Wright (1960) Stubicon \& Roy (1962) |
|  | Stabilities only | Klingsberg \& Roy (1957) DeVries \& Roy (1958) |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{KZn}_{3} \mathrm{KM}_{3}^{\mathrm{A} \perp S \mathrm{I}_{3} \mathrm{ASi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10} \mathrm{O}_{10}^{(\mathrm{OH}}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}}{ }_{2} \end{aligned}$ | Unit Cell Parameters | Frondel \& Ito (1966) |
| $\mathrm{NaMg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}{ }^{(\mathrm{OH})_{2}}$ | Physical Properties | Carman (1969) |
| $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{Mg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ | Physical Properties | Eugster \& Munoz (1966) |

the effects of a wide range of cation substitutions on the physical properties of hydrous trioctahedral micas.

## Mica Compositions Studied

The hydrous magnesian trioctahedral mica, phlogopite- $-\mathrm{KMg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ $\mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$, was used as the reference composition in this study. Attempted 100 percent octahedral substitutions for $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ included $\mathrm{Mn}^{2+}$, $\mathrm{Co}^{2+}, \mathrm{Ni}^{2+}, \mathrm{Cu}^{2+}, \mathrm{Zn}^{2+}, \mathrm{Cd}^{2+}$, and $\mathrm{Pb}^{2+}$. Data of Wones (1963b) on the $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ mica annite, and synthetic biotites on the join phlogopite-annite, have also been employed. Tetrahedral cation substitutions were $\mathrm{Ga}^{3+}$, $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$, and $\mathrm{B}^{3+}$ for $\mathrm{Al}^{\mathrm{l}^{3+}}$, and $\mathrm{Ge}^{4+}$ for $\mathrm{Si}^{+4}$; while substitutions into the interlayer cation $\mathrm{K}^{+}$position include $\mathrm{Rb}^{+}, \mathrm{Cs}^{+}, \mathrm{Cu}^{+}$, and $\mathrm{Ag}^{+}$. In addition, $\mathrm{Na}^{+}$phlogopite data of Carman (1969) and $\mathrm{NH}_{4}{ }^{+}$phlogopite data of Eugster and Munoz (1966) have been used in this study. Finally, a number of double 100 percent cation substitutions into the phlogopite structure were studied, including ferriannite- $\mathrm{KFe}_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{Fe}^{3+} \mathrm{Si}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ (data of Wones, 1963a), nickelous ferriphlogopite- $\mathrm{KNi}_{3} \mathrm{FeSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$, cobaltous ferriphlogopite- $\mathrm{Kco}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$, and sodium-zinc phlogopite$\mathrm{NaZn}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$.

## Experimental Technique

A complete list of chemicals and their lot numbers used in starting material preparation will be found in Table 2. Cobaltous hydroxide was prepared by the T. A. Edison precipitation method (U. S. Patent $\# 1,167,484$ ) in which ammonium hydroxide is added to a cobaltous sulfate solution. The precipitate of $\mathrm{Co}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ is washed five times in deionized and distilled water, and then dried at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 4 h . $\gamma$-alumina was prepared by heating $\mathrm{AlCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ for 1 h . at $750^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The silica glass was cleaned both magnetically and in acid, and fired at $800^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 2 h . before using. $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{O} \cdot 2 \mathrm{SiO}_{2}$ was prepared by D . R . Wones from cleaned $\mathrm{SiO}_{2}$ glass and $\mathrm{KHCO}_{3}$ after the method of Schairer and Bowen (1955). Starting materials of five types were used:

1) Oxide Mix
2) $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ plus oxides
3) $\mathrm{KAlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{8}$ gel plus $R^{2+}$ oxide or hydroxide
4) $\mathrm{KFeSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{8}$ gel plus $R^{2+}$ oxide or hydroxide
5) Mica gel

All gels were prepared by titration of standardized nitrate solutions. The solution mixes were dried and fired as described by Shaw (1963). Oxide mixes were prepared by weighing and mixing dried oxides or hydroxides, and then grinding in an agate mortar until optically homogeneous.

Charges were sealed with excess and deionized and distilled water, or 30 percent $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ solution in Au or $\mathrm{Ag}_{80} \mathrm{Pd}_{20} \frac{1}{8}$ in $\times \frac{1}{2}$ in capsules. In several runs oxygen fugacities were controlled by the solid buffer technique of Eugster (1957). Standard cold seal hydrothermal pressure apparatus was used in all runs (Tuttle,
1949). Pressure measurements are believed accurate within 1 per cent, and the error in temperature is within $\pm 3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. All runs were rapidly quenched ( 2 min .) in a cool water bath. A partial list of synthesis experiments will be found in Table 3.

X-ray powder diffraction examination of all runs was performed on a Picker diffractometer using $\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation, and data was collected on a strip chart recorder. Both $\mathrm{CaF}_{2}$ (Baker's Analytical Reagent lot \#91548; annealed 3 times at $800^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $1 \mathrm{~h} . ; a=5.4620 \pm .0005 \AA$ ) and $\mathrm{BaF}_{3}$ (Baker's lot \#308; annealed 2 times at $800^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for $1 \mathrm{~h} . ; a=6.1971 \pm .0002 \AA$ ) were employed as internal standards. Least squares unit cell refinements were performed using the Evans, Appleman, and Handwerker (1963) program. Optical data were obtained using a Zeiss binocular polarizing microscope with a white light source. Mica indices of refraction were measured with Cargille's Index of Refraction Liquids, which are accurate to within $\pm .0005$. All X-ray diffraction and optical work was performed at room temperature $\left(24^{\circ} \pm 1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$.

## Unit Cell Parameters

1 M unit cell dimensions and volumes, as well as molecular weights and calculated densities, for synthetic hydrous trioctahedral micas of

TABLE 2. Chemicals used in starting material preparation

|  | Chemicals used in oxide mix preparation |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Formulae | Manufacturer (\& Grade)* | Lot Number |
| $\mathrm{SiO}_{2}$ glass | Corning (lump cullet) | 7940 |
| $\mathrm{GeO}_{2}$ (trigonal) | Fisher | 786604 |
| $\mathrm{AlCL}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Mallinkrodt | 15961X |
| $\mathrm{Fe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ | Fisher | 762942 |
| $\mathrm{B}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ | J.T. Baker | 39315 |
| MgO | Fisher | 787699 |
| MnO | $K \& K$ | 10868 |
| $\mathrm{CoSO}_{4} \cdot 7 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Mallinkrodt | n.d. |
| NiO | Matheson, Coleman \& Bell | CB918 NX345 |
| CuO | Mallinkrodt | X40588 |
| 2 nO | Eaker \& Adamson | B3 34 |
| Cdo | Baker \& Ac ason | A244X364J |
| $\mathrm{Ni}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ | K \& K | 16214 |
| $\mathrm{NH}_{4}(\mathrm{OH})$ | J.T. Baker | 24037 |
| $\mathrm{KHCO}_{3}$ | J.T. Baker | 21537 |
| $\mathrm{K}(\mathrm{OH})$ | J.T. Baker | 14890 |
| $\mathrm{Ag}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | $\mathrm{K} \& \mathrm{~K}$ | 17692 |
| $\mathrm{Cu}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Fisher | n.d. |

TABLE 2. Continued
Additional chemicals used in gel preparations

| Formuale | Manufacturer (\& Grade) * | Lot Number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Ludox"** | Dupont (High Silica) | n.d. |
| Ag Metal | Fisher | 71096 |
| Cu Metal | Baker \& Adamson | $\mathrm{N}-023$ |
| 2n Metal | Merck | 40678 |
| Pb Metal | Fisher (8/1000" foil) | n.d. |
| Ga Meta 1 | J.T. Baker (99.999\%) | n.d. |
| $\mathrm{KNO}_{3}$ | J.'T. Baker | 30158 33275 |
| $\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}$ | Ј.T. Eaker | 18088 |
| $\mathrm{RbNO}_{3}$ | K \& K | 7824 |
| $\mathrm{CsNO}_{3}$ | K \& K | 37012 |
| $\mathrm{Mg}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{2} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | MaLlinkrodt | 27357 |
| $\mathrm{Mn}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{2}$ | Mallinkrodt (50\% solution) | 27357 26829 |
| $\mathrm{AL}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{3} \cdot 9 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Ma11inkrodt | 26829 795204 |
| $\mathrm{Cr}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{3} \cdot 9 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | MaLlinkrodt | 795204 |

*All chemicals reagent grade unless noted.
**Dupont Ludox was analyzed by $F$. Frey. Solids after drying and firing at $300^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ include by weight $\mathrm{SiO}_{2}=99.0 \%$ and $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{O}=1.0 \%$.
this and other studies are listed in Table 4. All parameters were refined using at least twenty equally-weighted X -ray powder reflections, except for $\mathrm{Rb}^{+}$and $\mathrm{Cs}^{+}$micas for which only three broad peaks were observed. Smith and Yoder (1956) have shown that trioctahedral micas often possess an ideal pseudo-trigonal unit cell, defined by $a_{m}=$ $b_{m} /(3)^{1 / 2}$ and $d_{001}=c_{m} \cdot \sin \beta_{m}$. Of the micas examined, only sodium and boron phlogopites depart appreciably from these ideal relations.

Crowley and Roy (1960) have demonstrated that pressure of formation does not significantly affect unit cell parameters of phlogopite. Similarly, synthetic micas examined in this study showed no systematic variations of cell parameters with temperature or pressure of crystallization. However, Eugster and Wright (1966) have noted that the physical properties of boron phlogopite appear to vary with temperature and pressure of formation. Also, Carman (1969) has clearly documented the tendency of sodium phlogopite to hydrate below $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

Thus, sodium and boron phlogopite once again depart from the ideal case. It should be noted that sodium and boron phlogopites have the smallest cell dimensions of all micas studied.

## Optical Data

Indices of refraction for synthetic hydrous trioctahedral micas of this and other studies are found in Table 5. Due to the psuedo-trigonal habit of these micas, $\gamma \simeq \beta$, and thus two refractive indices are definitive. Other optical parameters considered include birefringence $B=\gamma-\alpha$ and the observed mean refractive index $\bar{n}=\sqrt[3]{\alpha \cdot \gamma^{2}} \simeq(2 \gamma+\alpha) / 3$. While synthetic crystallites seldom exceeded $20 \mu$ in size, thus making


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$2 V$ determination difficult, all observed $2 V \simeq 0^{\circ}$. Micas are colorless except for those containing cations of the transition metal series. Intense pleochroism was observed only in iron-bearing trioctahedral micas, whereas faint pleochroism was noted in cobalt and copper phlogopites.

A useful, but seldom used, optical property is the specific refractive energy $K$, defined by $K=\bar{n}-1 / \rho$ where $\bar{n}$ is the mean refractive index and $\rho$ the density. Gladstone and Dale (1864) demonstrated that $K$ for liquids may be calculated from the formula: $K=k_{1}\left(P_{1} / 100\right)+$ $k_{2}\left(P_{2} / 100\right)+$ etc., where $k_{1}, k_{2}$, etc. are the specific refractive energies of the components of the liquids and $P_{1}, P_{2}$, etc. are the weight percentages of these components. H. W. Jaffe (1956) applied the rule of Gladstone and Dale to minerals, treating oxides as components of the minerals. Jaffe obtained reasonable agreement between observed and
TABLE 4. Unit Cell Parameters of Synthetic Hyarous Trioctahedral Micas

table 4. Continued


3. $\bar{n}_{\text {calc. }}=\rho \cdot k+1$, where $\rho=$ density in $\mathrm{gm} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ and $\mathrm{k}=$ specific refractive energy
after the rule of Gladstone and Dale (1864).
4. Indices of refraction determined on mica heated to $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and immediately placed
into oil.
5. Recent Mossbauer work reveals appreciable $\mathrm{Fe}^{+3}$ in all synthetic annites.
calculated $\tilde{n}$ in this manner. However, it is interesting to note that the calculated $\bar{n}$ for hydrous silicates considered in Jaffe's study displayed consistent positive deviations from observed $\bar{n}$. Deviations ranged from a low of -.001 to as high as +0.064 for the twenty-five hydrous-silicates discussed.

Similarly, synthetic hydrous micas of this study display consistently positive deviations of $\bar{n}_{\text {cale }}$. from $\bar{n}_{\text {obs. }}$. Only annites display a negative deviation, and positive deviations as high as +0.087 are noted. It would thus appear that the value cited for $k\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ by Larsen and Berman (1934) of 0.034 cannot be applied directly to water in the silicate minerals. A significantly smaller value for $k\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ is implied by the above data. Another source of error in the calculated $K$ for silicates may result from erroneous $k$ values for transition metals. Jaffe (1956) notes that $k\left(\mathrm{Fe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3}\right)$ varies from 0.290 in silicates to 0.404 in oxides. It thus appears that $k$ for transition metals may be lowered considerably in a silicate environment. However, $k$ values for copper, cobalt, nickel, etc. are known only for the oxide environment. This may, in part, explain the anomalously high values for $\vec{n}$ calculated. it seems that further refinement of $k$ values are needed before the rule of Gladstone and Dale may be effectively applied to silicate minerals.

## Sources of Error

Optical examination revealed that the majority of trioctahedral micas synthesized represent $99+$ percent reaction from starting materials, and are thus assumed to be of ideal composition. However, rubidium and cesium phlogopites represented only $\simeq 20-25$ percent of the reactants in those runs. These micas are thought to approximate ideal composition on the basis of the observed trioctahedral X-ray patterns and the predicted unit cell parameters. Due to difficulties in standardizing gallium in nitrate solution, the gallium phlogopite gel may be slightly difficient in $\mathrm{Ga}^{3+}$, explaining why a maximum reaction of only 95 percent was obtained. Another possible source of error in the assumed compositions was revealed through Mössbauer studies of iron-bearing phlogopites. Wones, Burns, and Carroll (1971) have shown a minimum of 10 percent $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$ in all annites, and from 5 to 15 percent $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ in ferriphlogopites. Thus, one might also expect multiple valence states in Ni, Co, and Cu-bearing micas. Seifert and Schreyer (1971) have demonstrated the presence of $\mathrm{Mg}^{2+}$ in tetrahedral coordination in Mg-rich synthetic trioctahedral micas. However, the assumption is made that all $R^{2+}$-cations in this study are in octahedral coordination unless noted otherwise.

In the investigation by Frondel and Ito (1966), and in this study,
end-member zinc phlogopite $\mathrm{KZn}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ was not achieved. In all experiments in which mica was produced, $\geq 25$ percent willemite$\mathrm{Zn}_{2} \mathrm{SiO}_{4}$ with minor leucite and/or glass were also present. While the mica is clearly zinc-bearing, having cell parameters and indices of refraction higher than phlogopite, the excess willemite is evidence of less than three $\mathrm{Zn}^{2+}$ atoms per mica formula unit. Neumann (1949) has documented the great preference of zinc for tetrahedral coordination. Thus, one possible explanation for such a zinc-poor mica is that the zinc enters the tetrahedral layer, while aluminum fills the three octahedral sites; i.e., $\mathrm{KAl}_{3}{ }^{3+}\left(\mathrm{Zn}_{2}{ }^{2+}, \mathrm{Si}_{2}{ }^{1+}\right)_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$. A structural study of the natural zinc mica hendricksite from Franklin, New Jersey, would aid in an understanding of zinc's role in the layer silicates.

Synthesis of end-member manganese phlogopite- $\mathrm{KMn}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}$ $(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ was also unsuccessful. Frondel and Ito (1966) report that tephroite- $\mathrm{Mn}_{2} \mathrm{SiO}_{4}$ is present as a major phase in all mica-bearing runs, while in the present study pyrochroite- $\mathrm{Mn}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ accompanies the mica phase. Thus, while the unit cell parameters of the mica are greater than those of phlogopite, there are fewer than three manganese atoms per mica formula unit. Burns (1970, p. 43) has demonstrated from absorption spectra evidence that the distorted octahedral site of the phlogopite structure may stabilize manganese in the plus-three valence state. Furthermore, natural manganophyllites invariably contain aluminum in more than 10 percent of the octahedral sites. Therefore, the manganese-poor mica synthesized in this study may represent a solid solution between the components $\mathrm{KMn}_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}+$ $\mathrm{KMn}_{2}{ }^{3+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}+\mathrm{KAl}_{2} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$. Further study on natural manganophyllites is needed to define the extent of $\mathrm{Mn}^{3+} / \mathrm{Mn}^{2+}$ substitution in the mica's distorted octahedral sites.

## Relations between Cell Parameters and Ionic Radil

There exist several systematic relations between unit cell parameters and ionic radii of substituting cations. For example, the cell dimensions $a_{m}, b_{m}$, and $c_{m}$ are each proportional to the Shannon and Prewitt (revised 1970) ionic radii of cations substituting into the tetrahedral, octahedral or interlayer positions. This relation is clearly demonstrated by Figure 1 of $b_{m}$ vs. octahedral cation radii. The single exception to this rule is that of $c_{m}$ vs. interlayer six-coordinated cation radii (Fig. 2). The distinct negative curvature has been explained by Prewitt (personal communication) as the result of increasing effective coordination number of the interlayer cation with increasing ionic radius of this cation. For a given cation, an increase in coordination number is accompanied by an increase in effective ionic radius. Assuming the


Fig. 1. Monoclinic $b_{m}$ unit cell dimension vs. ionic radius of the octahedral $R^{2+}$ cation for micas of the form $\mathrm{K}_{3}{ }_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{r} 0}(\mathrm{OH})_{\mathrm{g}}$. Black dots represent biotites on the join phlogopite-annite synthesized by Wones (1963b).
relation $C_{m}$ vs. effective interlayer cation radius is linear, then the relation $C_{m}$ vs. six-coordinated cation radius should demonstrate the observed negative curvature. As expected, unit cell volumes are linearly related to the cube of the substituting cations' radii for octahedral and tetrahedral substitutions, and display a slight negative curvature in the interlayer case (Figs. 3 and 4).

It is of interest to consider how $b_{m}$ (the cell dimension within the mica layers) varies with respect to $d_{001}$ (the dimension perpendicular to the layers) for each type of cation substitution. A plot of $b_{m}$ vs.


Fig. 2. Monoclinic $c_{\mathrm{ma}}$ unit cell dimension vs. ionic radius of the interlayer $R^{+}$ cation for micas of the form $R^{+} \mathrm{Mg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$.
$d_{001}$ (Fig. 5) demonstrates that octahedral, tetrahedral, and interlayer cation substitutions have differing effects on the size and shape of the unit cell. For example, octahedral substitutions have a profound influence on $b_{m}$, while $d_{001}$ remains virtually constant. The near-vertical slope of the $R^{2+}$ line is a result of this fact. It should be noted that these observations agree with the theoretical predictions of Takeda and Morimoto (1970). On the other hand, interlayer cation substitutions alter the thickness, $d_{001}$, of the layers, while having a much smaller effect on $b_{m}$. $R^{3+}$ and $R^{4+}$ tetrahedral substitutions influence both $b_{m}$ and $d_{001}$.

## Substitutions and Stability

Interlayer and tetrahedral cation substitutions demonstrate that a wide range of ionic radii are possible in these positions. Interlayer
cations vary from sodium (ionic radius $=0.98 \AA$ ) to cesium (1.70). Tetrahedral cations from boron (0.12) to trivalent iron (0.49) form stable micas. However, octahedral cations seem far more restricted in their ability to substitute into the phlogopite structure. No $R^{2+}$ cation of radius greater than ferrous iron (0.78), including lead (1.18) cadmium (0.95) and manganese (0.83), was found to form a stable mica. Furthermore, Eugster and Wones (1962) have demonstrated that the $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ mica, annite, is far less stable than phlogopite. Thus, it appears that the stability of trioctahedral micas may be in part a function of the octahedral cation's radius.

It is well known that in phlogopite the ideal $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ tetrahedral layer is larger than the $\mathrm{Mg}_{3}$ layer (Radoslovich and Norrish, 1962). If the trioctahedral mica is to be stable, then these two layers must coincide, either by expansion of the octahedral layer in the plane of $a_{m}$ and $b_{m}$ or by contraction of the tetrahedral layer within this plane. Radoslovich and Norrish suggest four ways to accomplish this:


Fig. 3. Monoclinic unit cell volume vs. the cube of the octahedral $R^{2+}$ cation radius for micas of the form $K R_{2}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSis}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{I} 0}(\mathrm{OH})_{\mathrm{g}}$.


Fig. 4. Moneclinic unit cell volume vs. the cube of the interlayer $R^{+}$cation radius for micas of the form $R^{+} \mathrm{Mg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{I} 0}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$, and vs. the cube of the tetrahedral $R^{3+}$ cation radius for micas of the form $\mathrm{KMg}_{3} R^{3+} \mathrm{Si}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$.

1) altering bond lengths of the ideal layers,
2) tetrahedral layer tilting or corrugation,
3) octahedral layer flattening, or
4) tetrahedral layer rotation.

The altering of bond lengths is energetically far more difficult than altering bond angles. Thus, while such distortions have been noted in pure fluorpolylithionite $\mathrm{KAlLi}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{10} \mathrm{~F}_{2}$ (Takeda and Burnham, 1969), bond stretching or contraction is assumed to be a minor effect in $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ or $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+} \mathrm{Si}_{3}$ tetrahedra. Tetrahedral tilting or corrugation is also well documented by Takeda and Burnham in their mica with partially ordered $\mathrm{AlLi}_{2}$ octahedral layer. However, they believe that tilting of tetrahedra will be minimized when all octahedral positions are filled by the same cation.
Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1964) have demonstrated that the


Fig. 5. Monoclinic interlayer spacing $d_{001}$ vs. monoclinic $b_{m}$ unit cell dimension. The four lines represent micas of the forms $R^{+} \mathrm{Mg}_{3} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{io}}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}, \mathrm{~K}_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}-$ $(\mathrm{OH})_{2}, \mathrm{KMg}_{3} R^{3} \mathrm{Si}_{3}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$, and $\mathrm{KMg}_{3} \mathrm{Al}_{3}{ }^{4+} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$.
octahedral layer may conform to the larger tetrahedral layer by octahedral layer flattening (See Fig. 6). In this way bond lengths are preserved while bond angles are altered. The amount of compression may be represented by the angle $\psi$, which has the value $54^{\circ} 44^{\prime}$ in an ideal octahedron. If the assumptions are made that:

1) there is no tetrahedral tilting or corrugation (i.e., basal oxygens in each tetrahedral sheet are coplanar),
2) (001) projections of tetrahedra are equilateral triangles, and
3) $a_{m}=b_{m} /(3)^{1 / 2}$,
then $\psi$ is a simple function of the mean octahedral bond length $d_{o}$ and cell dimension $b_{m}$ : $\sin \psi=b_{m} / 3(3)^{1 / 2} \cdot d_{0}$. The mean octahedral bond length for $\mathrm{Mg}-(\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{OH})$ and $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}-(\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{OH})$ and $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}-(\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{OH})$ are given by Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1964) as $2.07 \AA$ and $2.12 \AA$ respectively. Mean bond lengths for other octahedral cations may be calculated by interpolation or by adding cation radius to that of


Fig. 6. Expansion of the octahedral 001 projection by octahedral layer compression.
oxygen ( $1.38 \AA$ ). Thus, knowing $b_{m}$, we can calculate $\psi$ for each octahedral layer substitution. In Figure 7, $\psi$ is plotted vs. octahedral cation radius. As ionic radius increases, the value of $\psi$ is noted to decrease slightly. Thus, larger octahedral cations require less site flattening to conform to the $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ tetrahedral layer. While octahedral layer flattening is a real effect in hydrous trioctahedral micas, this structural parameter does not explain the instability of 100 percent octahedral substitutions of cations larger than $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$.


Fig. 7. Octahedral layer compression angle $\psi$ vs. ionic radius of the octahedral $R^{2+}$ cation in micas of the form $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{a}^{2+}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{\mathrm{z}} \text {. Black dots represent biotites }{ }^{\text {. }} \text {. }}$ on the join phlogopite-annite synthesized by Wones (1963).

Tetrahedral layer rotation is a fourth means of fitting the nonequivalent octahedral and tetrahedral layers (see Fig. 8). Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1964) have shown that by rotating each tetrahedron through an angle $\alpha$ about an axis perpendicular to the (001) plane, the effective size of the tetrahedral sheet is reduced. Structure studies by Steinfink (1962) and others reveal values for $\alpha$ may be greater than $10^{\circ}$ in natural micas. Thus, in phlogopite the strain between octahedral and tetrahedral layers may be released primarily through tetrahedral layer rotation.
If the conditions assumed by Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1964) for octahedral layer flattening are correct, then $\alpha$ is defined by the mean tetrahedral bond length $d_{t}$ and the cell dimension $b_{m}: \cos \alpha=$ $b_{m} / 4 \cdot(2)^{1 / 2} \cdot d_{t}$. The mean tetrahedral bond length for the $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ layer is known to be $1.643 \pm .002 \AA$ from studies of muscovite (Güven, 1967 and Burnham and Radoslovich, 1964), biotite (Franzini, 1963), and fluorphlogopite (McCauley, 1968). With this value of $d_{t}$, and the


Fig. 8. Contraction of the tetrahedral 001 projection by tetrahedral layer rotation.


Fig. 9. Tetrahedral layer rotation angle $\alpha$ vs. ionic radius of the octahedral $R^{2+}$ cation for micas of the form $\mathrm{K}_{3}{ }^{2+}{ }^{2} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{\mathrm{g}}$. Black dots represent biotites on the join phlogopite-annite synthesized by Wones (1963b).
known values of $b_{m}$, a plot of $R^{2+}$ ionic radius vs. $\alpha$ has been constructed for micas of the form $\mathrm{KR}_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ (see Fig. 9). As the octahedral cation radius increases to $0.76 \AA, \alpha$ approaches the critical value of $0^{\circ}$. For octahdral cations of ionic radius greater than $\approx 0.76 \AA$, the tetrahedral layer cannot expand further by rotation. It might therefore be expected that hydrous trioctahedral micas with an $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ tetrahedral layer would not be stable for an octahedral layer cation of radius greater than about $0.76 \AA$.

## Octahedral Cation Distribution in Natural Micas

Foster (1960) has plotted the octahedral cation content for over 200 natural phlogopites, biotites, and siderophyllites (Fig. 10). As the $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ content of these micas increases, so does the octahedral aluminum content. Trivalent aluminum in $R^{2+}$ sites requires a corresponding substitution of aluminum for silicon in the tetrahedral layer. Thus, aluminum has the dual effect of increasing the size of the tetrahedral layer, while decreasing the effective octahedral cation radius. The maximum observed effective octahedral ionic radius, for the most iron-rich, aluminum-poor specimens, is $0.74 \AA$. Similarly, manganophyllites are known with almost 20 percent MnO substituting for MgO (Jakob, 1925), resulting in an effective octahedral ionic radius of 0.74 $\AA$. Thus, while octahedral cations in natural micas of the form $K R^{2^{+}}$ $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ approach the critical ionic radius of $0.76 \AA$, they are not observed to exceed this value.


Fia. 10. The composition of the octahedral layer of more than 200 natural phlogopites, biotites, siderophyllites, and lepidomelanes from Foster (1960).

## The Composition of Annite

Synthetic annite was noted to be the only hydrous trioctahedral mica of the form $\mathrm{KR}_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}$ which appears to have an average octahedral ionic radius greater than the critical value of $0.76 \AA$. Eugster and Wones (1962) have demonstrated that trivalent iron (octahedral ionic radius $=0.63 \AA$ ) may substitute for octahedral divalent iron $(0.78 \AA)$ in annite as expressed by the oxyannite reaction:

$$
\mathrm{KFe}_{3}{ }^{2+} \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{10}(\mathrm{OH})_{2} \rightleftarrows \mathrm{~K}\left(\mathrm{Fe}^{2+} \mathrm{Fe}_{2}^{3+}\right) \mathrm{AlSi}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{12}+\mathrm{H}_{2} .
$$

An annite with $\approx 12$ mole percent octahedral $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$ (i.e., $\approx 18$ mole percent oxyannite) has an average octahedral cation radius of $0.76 \AA$, and it was thus predicted that even the most reduced synthetic annites may have appreciable oxyannite content. Subsequent study by Wones, Burns, and Carroll (1971) employing Mössbauer and analytical chemistry techniques have confirmed that at least 10 mole percent of octahedral iron in all synthetic annites is in the trivalent state. It therefore appears that octahedral cation size restrictions, resulting from the misfit between octahedral and tetrahedral mica layers, may have a profound effect on the valency of iron in annite.

From Figure 9 it can be seen that for synthetic biotites of high iron content, tetrahedral rotation (i.e., $\alpha$ ) is zero. Therefore, from Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1963):

$$
\cos \alpha=1=b_{m} / 4 \cdot(2)^{1 / 2} d_{t}
$$

for these micas. However, Wones (1963b) has shown that values for $b_{m}$ increase with increasing Fe content, in these high-iron biotites. It must therefore be assumed that $d_{t}$ is also increasing in order to maintain the relation $b_{m} / d_{t}=4(2)^{\frac{3}{2}}$ for these micas. One possible way to increase the mean tetrahedral bond length $d_{t}$ is by substitution of $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$ for $\mathrm{Al}^{3^{+}}$in the tetrahedral layer. Since $b_{m}$ for annite $=9.348 \AA$, then $d_{t}=9.348 / 4(2)^{1 / 2}=1.652 \AA$. Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1964) have suggested a value of $1.68 \AA$ for $d_{t}$ of the $\mathrm{FeSi}_{3}$ tetrahedral layer, as opposed to the smaller $1.643 \AA$ mean tetrahedral bond length for an $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ sheet. Therefore, $d_{t}=1.652$ implies a composition of $\left(\mathrm{Fe}_{0.2}{ }^{3+}\right.$, $\mathrm{Al}_{0.8^{3+}}$ ) $\mathrm{Si}_{3}$ (i.e., $\approx 7$ percent total iron is trivalent and in tetrahedral sites) for annites' tetrahedral layer. Indeed, Mössbauer studies by Burns (see Wones, Burns, and Carroll, 1971) confirm that 6.5 percent total Fe is tetrahedral $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$ !

## Prediction of Trioctahedral Mica Stability

It has been shown that $b_{m}$ is proportional to the octahedral cation radius (Fig. 1). But we know that $\cos \alpha$ is proportional to $b_{m} / d_{t}$.

Therefore, $\cos \alpha$ is proportional to octahedral ionic radius/ $d_{t}$. This linear relation is demonstrated in Figure 11, a plot of $\cos \alpha$ vs. $R^{2+}$ ionic radii for varying mean tetrahedral bond length $d_{t}$. The line for an $\mathrm{AlSi}_{3}$ tetrahedral layer ( $d_{t}=1.643$ ) has been developed previously (Fig. 9). Donnay, Donnay, and Takeda (1964) suggest a value of $d_{t}$ $=1.68 \AA$ for the $\mathrm{FeSi}_{3}$ tetrahedral layer, and this value has been used to obtain a second line on Figure 11 defined by $\mathrm{Ni}^{2+}, \mathrm{Mg}^{2+}, \mathrm{Co}^{2+}$, and $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ ferri-phlogopites. By noting that these two lines are parallel, and by calculating additional mean tetrahedral bond lengths from data of


Fig. 11. Cosine of the tetrahedral layer rotation angle $\alpha$ vs. octahedral $R^{2+}$ cation radius for micas of the form $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{a}^{2+}}\left(\mathrm{AlSi}_{s}\right) \mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{I} 0}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}\left[d_{t}=1.643\right]$ and $\mathrm{K}_{3}{ }^{2+}\left(\mathrm{FeSi}_{3}\right) \mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{to}}(\mathrm{OH})_{2}\left[d_{t}=1.68.\right]$


Fig. 12. A nomogram for $\cos \alpha$ vs. octahedral $R^{2+}$ cation radius vs. mean tetrahedral bond length for all hydrous, potassic, trioctahedral micas.

Shannon and Prewitt (rev. 1970), additional lines can be drawn for the $\mathrm{BSi}_{3}, \mathrm{GaSi}_{3}$, and $\mathrm{AlGe}_{3}$ tetrahedral layers. The resulting nomogram is found in Figure 12. The intersection of any line with $\cos \alpha=1.00$ defines the critical octahedral cation radius for a hydrous trioctahedral mica with a mean tetrahedral bond length corresponding to that line. Thus, if the composition of a hydrous trioctahedral mica is known, systematic relations between composition and ionic radii enable us to predict unit cell dimensions, structural parameters, and even the stability of the mica.

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[^1]:    1. Shannon and Prewitt (1970).
    2. All runs at $\mathrm{P}=2 \mathrm{kbar} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ unless noted.
    3. $P=1.0 \mathrm{kbar} \mathrm{CH}_{4}$.
    4. $P=0.2 \mathrm{kbar} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$.
