PARAPIERROTITE FROM THE VORONTSOVSKOE GOLD DEPOSIT, NORTHERN URALS, RUSSIA: CRYSTAL STRUCTURE AND CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

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We report data on the chemical composition and crystal structure of parapierrotite, TlSb₅S₈, recently found at the Vorontsovskoe gold deposit (Sverdlovskaya Oblast', Northern Urals, Russia). It forms there short prismatic crystals up to 1 mm across embedded in a calcite-quartz matrix in association with orpiment, prehnite and baryte. Electron microprobe analysis yields the empirical formula (calculated on the basis of sum of 14 atoms) Tl_{1.01}(Sb_{4.75}As_{0.28})_{2.5.03}S_{7.95}. Crystal structure of parapierrotite was solved at the first time. It is determined from single-crystal X-ray diffraction data and refined to R = 0.0536 for 4643 observed reflections with $I > 3(\sigma)$. Parapierrotite is monoclinic, space group Pn, with unit-cell parameters a = 8.0832(5), b = 19.4057(11), c = 9.0465(5) Å, $\beta = 91.908(6)^{\circ}$, V = 1418.25(1) Å³ and Z = 4. The structure of parapierrotite is identical to previously reported structure of synthetic TlSb₅S₈.

Key words: parapierrotite, synthetic TlSb₅S₈, As admixture, Vorontsovskoe gold ore deposit, the Urals.