minutes annealing at 800 °C. Initial nucleation is in the form of the pyroxene structure, which crystallises with a perfect stacking arrangement. Further annealing however, causes this simple chain configuration to be interrupted by repeat units of the wollastonite structure, producing long-period pyroxenoids. With prolonged annealing the pyroxenoid chain repeat becomes the stable phase. Occasional stacking defects are noted but termination of a chain configuration within the crystals is never seen. For the 1:1 composition, the glassy phase is unstable and crystallises under the influence of the electron beam. Initially, lattice fringes with a spacing corresponding to that of the octahedral framework of these structures are observed. Upon further exposure, a larger system of fringes with spacing characteristic of the pyroxene silicate chain appear. After annealing times of only two hours, the ordered pyroxene structure predominates.

The results are in complete accordance with the predicted structure/composition relationships in metasilicates. In all cases experimental evidence points to a constant anion framework which is set up on crystallisation. Subsequent structure development and modification accompany diffusion of both octahedral and tetrahedral cations, a process which can be monitored directly by observation of the lattice images.

14.4-04 INTERGROWTH TUNGSTEN BRONZE ANALOGUES STUDIED BY HIGH RESOLUTION ELECTRON MICROSCOPY. By Lars Kihlborg and Renu Sharma, Department of Inorganic Chemistry, Arhusen Laboratory, University of Stockholm, S-106 91 Stockholm, Sweden.

Intergrowth tungsten bronzes (ITB) form in the systems A2M3O9, with M = K, Rb, Cs and Tl, for 0.06 ≤ x ≤ 0.10 (Russin & Kihlborg, Acta Cryst. A32, 551). Their structures can be regarded as intergrowth between slabs of (slightly modified) tungsten trioxide type and hexagonal tungsten bronze (HTB) type. A family of structures is thereby formed in which the members differ with respect to the widths of the two structure elements. Disorder is quite common and faults and long range superstructures have also been observed (Kihlborg, Chem. Scripta 14, 187).

By substituting a pentavalent metal, M, for part of the tungsten: A4(M5-xMx)2O9, M = V, Nb or Ta, fully oxidized ITB analogues have been prepared. Structures where the HTB slabs dominate are common here, extending the range of intergrowth all the way from WO3 to HTB. Crystals in which thin HTB slabs occur as isolated defects in WO3, as well as the reverse case, have also been observed, and these represent the extremes of this extensive series of intergrowth.

Intricate stacking sequences, quite well ordered, have been seen and these raise interesting questions as to what determines the stability of the various structures in this family.

14.4-05 HIGH RESOLUTION ELECTRON MICROSCOPY OF THE INCOMMENSURATE STRUCTURE IN Sr2Nb2O7. By N. Yamamoto. Department of Physics, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Negoro-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

Sr2Nb2O7 is known as a ferroelectric material, whose structure is composed of slabs with distorted perovskite type octahedra. Recent electron microscopic study (Yamamoto, Yagi, Honjo, Kikumura & Kanamura, 1980) showed the existence of the incommensurate phase below 215°C in this material. The incommensurate lattice modulation is one dimensional along the a axis, and has a wave vector q = ± (q + δ) where δ is a small value (0.008 ≤ δ ≤ 0.022) and temperature dependent. The model of the atom displacements due to the lattice modulation was proposed from the analysis of the systematic extinction of the extra reflections in the incommensurate phase. The rotations of the NbO6 octahedra about the b axis were considered in this model. High resolution images taken by using JEM 200 CX electron microscope clearly revealed the spatially continuous lattice modulation in the crystal. The incommensurate lattice fringe contrasts depend on crystal thickness and defocusing of the objective lens, e.g., the fringe contrast increases with the crystal thickness. The images were calculated for the proposed model of the atomic displacement by using the multi-slice method and were compared with the observed through-focus images in a suitable crystal thickness. A good agreement was given for the magnitudes of the atom displacements in the adequate range. Such calculation also enables us to determine the phase of the lattice modulation wave in the crystal.


Crystal structures of hexagonal potassium tungsten bronze, KxWO3, with x = 0.24, 0.25 and 0.26 have been studied by high resolution electron microscopy and the convergent-beam electron diffraction method. All the specimens showed incommensurate superstructures occurring along the c axis of the subcell. The sublattice periodicities varied slightly with the chemical compositions (2.06 X c and 2.20 X c for the compositions x = 0.24 and 0.26 respectively). The incommensurate superstructure that is stable near room temperature is transformed irreversibly upon heating and cooling to a higher temperature phase having the subcell periodicity via a possible intermediate phase. The transition appears to correspond to the "hump" found recently in the resistivities of the bronze of the x = 0.24 at near room temperature (W. G. Moulton, private communication).

High resolution images of the incommensurate superstructures revealed that their periodicities resulted from a mixture of bands having two types of widths (2 X c and 2.5 X c). The averaging of these band widths results in a non-integral number of the subcell periodicity. The structure of the incommensurate phase arises from a local ordering of K ion vacancies in the hexagonal tunnels. The vacancies are ordered in a layer parallel to (001) plane. Such defective layers are stacked with completely filled layers along the c axis. The stacking of these two types of layers leads to various periods of the non-integral multiplicities.