

# Chalcothallite

# Tl<sub>2</sub>(Cu, Fe)<sub>6</sub>SbS<sub>4</sub>

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**Crystal Data:** Tetragonal. *Point Group:*  $4/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$ . As lamellar aggregates, to 2 cm.  
*Twinning:* A fine grid of lamellae are visible parallel to  $\{110\}$  and  $\{1\bar{1}0\}$ .

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* Perfect on  $\{001\}$ , indistinct on  $\{100\}$  and  $\{010\}$ .  
*Tenacity:* Plastic, tectonically deformed. Hardness = 2–2.5 VHN = 68–76, average 71, on  $\{001\}$  (50 g load). D(meas.) = 6.6 D(calc.) = [6.74]

**Optical Properties:** Opaque. *Color:* Lead-gray to iron-black, tarnishes iridescent; creamy white to pale gray, with a brownish creamy tint in reflected light. *Streak:* Black.  
*Luster:* Metallic. *Pleochroism:* Notable in air. *Anisotropism:* Distinct in orange to red-browns.  
R<sub>1</sub>–R<sub>2</sub>: (400) 27.6–31.0, (420) 27.1–30.5, (440) 26.5–30.1, (460) 26.0–29.6, (480) 25.5–29.2, (500) 25.1–28.8, (520) 24.9–28.4, (540) 24.7–28.1, (560) 24.6–27.7, (580) 24.7–27.3, (600) 24.7–26.9, (620) 24.8–26.6, (640) 24.8–26.2, (660) 24.8–26.0, (680) 24.9–25.7, (700) 24.9–25.5

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:*  $I4/mmm$ .  $a = 3.827(1)$   $c = 34.280(1)$   $Z = 2$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Ilímaussaq intrusion, Greenland.  
2.447 (10), 1.913 (10), 3.803 (7), 3.015 (7), 3.630(5), 2.704 (5), 2.580 (5)

## Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
Tl	33.72	36.2
K	0.79	
Cu	34.33	32.7
Ag	1.78	
Pb	0.08	
Fe	3.78	3.9
Sb	11.96	11.2
Se	0.02	
S	12.52	13.05
Total	98.98	97.05

(1) Ilímaussaq intrusion, Greenland; by electron microprobe, corresponding to  $(\text{Tl}_{1.69}\text{K}_{0.21})_{\Sigma=1.90}(\text{Cu}_{5.53}\text{Fe}_{0.69}\text{Ag}_{0.17})_{\Sigma=6.39}\text{Sb}_{1.01}\text{S}_{4.00}$ . (2) Do.; by electron microprobe, corresponding to  $\text{Tl}_{1.74}(\text{Cu}_{5.06}\text{Fe}_{0.69})_{\Sigma=5.75}\text{Sb}_{0.90}\text{S}_{4.00}$ .

**Occurrence:** In ussingite veins cutting poikilitic sodalite syenite.

**Association:** Galena, vrbaité, cuprostibite, thalcosite, silver, gudmundite, chalcocite, sphalerite, molybdenite, avicennite, chkalovite, epistolite, niobophyllite, analcime, natrolite, microcline, lithium-mica, tugtupite.

**Distribution:** From Mt. Nákâlâq, northwest of Taseq Lake, in the Ilímaussaq intrusion, southern Greenland.

**Name:** For the composition.

**Type Material:** National School of Mines, Paris, France.

**References:** (1) Semenov, E.I., H. Sørensen, M.S. Bezmertnaya, and L.E. Novorossova (1967) Chalcothallite, a new sulphide of copper and thallium from the Ilímaussaq alkaline intrusion, South Greenland. *Medd. Grønland*, 181, 13–25. (2) (1968) *Amer. Mineral.*, 53, 1775 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Kovalenker, V.A., I.P. Laputina, Y.I. Semenov, and T.L. Evstigneeva (1978) Potassium-bearing thalcosite from the Ilímaussaq pluton and new data on chalcothallite. *Doklady Acad. Nauk SSSR*, 239, 1203–1206 (in Russian). (4) Makovicky, E., Z. Johan, and S. Karup-Møeller (1980) New data on bukovite, thalcosite, chalcothallite and rohaite. *Neues Jahrb. Mineral., Abh.*, 138, 122–146.

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