Crystal Data: Monoclinic. *Point Group*: 2/*m*. As anhedral grains and very crude elongated crystals to 200 μm. Visually indistinguishable from associated rossovskyite, ilmenite, and rutile.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage*: None. *Tenacity*: Brittle. *Fracture*: Uneven. Hardness = 5.5 D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 5.855 Nonfluorescent.

Optical Properties: Opaque. *Color*: Black, light medium gray in reflected light. *Streak*: Dark brown to black. *Luster*: Submetallic.
Optical Class: *Anisotropism*: Very weak. Non-pleochroic.
R: (470) 17.5, (546) 16.9, (589) 17.0, (650) 17.3

Cell Data: *Space Group*: $P2_1/c$. a = 4.7092(3) b = 5.6531(4) c = 5.0530(4) β = 90.453(3)° Z = 2

X-ray Powder Pattern: Befanamo, along upper Betsiboka River, Analamanga, Madagascar.
2.961 (100), 2.938 (83), 3.628 (44), 2.472 (30), 4.722 (22), 3.776 (22), 1.445 (21)

Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
MgO	0.06	
MnO	2.49	
Fe_2O_3	12.14	
Sc_2O_3	11.34	34.16
TiO_2	5.94	
SnO_2	1.45	
Nb_2O_5	32.23	65.84
Ta_2O_5	29.93	
WO_3	3.38	.
Total	98.96	100.00

(1) Befanamo, along upper Betsiboka River, Analamanga, Madagascar; average electron microprobe and Raman spectroscopic analyses; corresponds to $(Sc_{0.40}Fe^{3+}_{0.37}Ti_{0.15}Mn^{2+}_{0.08})_{\Sigma=1.00}(Nb_{0.58}Ta_{0.33}W_{0.03}Ti_{0.03}Sn_{0.02})_{\Sigma=0.99}O_4$. (2) $ScNbO_4$.

Mineral Group: Wolframite group.

Occurrence: In granitic pegmatite.

Association: Rossovskyite, ilmenite, rutile, thortveitite, euxenite-(Y), feldspar, quartz.

Distribution: From Befanamo, 80 km north of Antananarivo, along upper Betsiboka River, Analamanga, Madagascar.

Name: The prefix identifies the Nb-analogue of *heftetjernite*.

Type Material: Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada (CMNMC 51710).

References: (1) Lykova, I., R. Rowe, G. Poirier, A.M. McDonald, and G. Giester (2021) Nioboheftetjernite, $ScNbO_4$, a new mineral from the Befanamo pegmatite, Madagascar. Can. Mineral., 59, 445-452.